Habitual offender allegedly assaulted girlfriend. PAGE 3
Compromise in Judiciary mold remediation funding. PAGE 5

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXVIII, Issue No. 105

www.saipantribune.com | TUESDAY MAY 29, 2018 | www.facebook.com/saipantribune

75¢

Torres vetoes poker bill

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres vetoed yesterday a bill that would have allowed some poker arcades to keep operating in some villages on Saipan, in violation of a law that now requires them to move out.

Torres vetoed House Local Bill 20-48, S1, saying he has concerns with the bill.

The bill, authored by Rep. John Paul Sablan (R-Saipan), would rezone certain lots across Saipan as mixed commercial districts, which would allow for the operation of

See TORRES on Page 4

DOL: Employers responsible for employee repatriations

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Employers who have had their recent CW-1 petitions rejected from fiscal year 2019's lottery would have to shoulder the repatriation costs for their foreign employees, according to the CNMI Department of Labor.

Responding to a *Saipan Tribune* query, Labor Secretary Vicky Benavente said it is the "most current employer on record" who will be responsible for an employee whose employment is terminated.

Employers are statutorily

See DOL on Page 4

Jardinero proves that learning is for life

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Maria Luisa Jardinero had a lot of free time on her hands after logging out from her job as human resources officer at Century Tours and POI Aviation in Lower Base. She was

See JARDINERO on Page 4

JON PEREZ

Maria Luisa Jardinero receives her diploma after graduating with an Associate of Applied Science in Business Administration (Computer Applications emphasis) degree in the Northern Marianas College's 38th Commencement Exercises last May 19 at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.

A relative sits beside the grave of a CNMI veteran during yesterday's commemoration of Memorial Day at the Veterans Cemetery in Marpi. Joint Region Marianas/U.S. Naval Forces Marianas commander Rear Adm. Shoshana Chatfield graced the occasion.

JON PEREZ

More photos on Page 2

'To our heroes, thank you'

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The clear blue skies and the cool, gentle breeze yesterday were the perfect foil to the heartfelt speeches given at the Memorial Day ceremony at the Veterans Cemetery in Marpi.

Organized by the CNMI Military/Veterans Affairs Office, the occasion was graced not only by the families of veterans who have passed on, but also by Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Rear Adm. Shoshana Chatfield, Joint Region Marianas/U.S. Naval Forces Marianas commander.

According to Torres, he had the opportunity to join the Matua Riders and Young Gunz's Freedom Ride last Saturday and it was that ride that made him reflect upon the freedom every U.S. citizen has, thanks to the sacri-

See HEROES on Page 4

INSIDE

BUSINESS
Tourism businesses from Maine to Missouri are turning to Puerto Ricans.
PAGE 13

NATION
William Roy Dover's memory of the World War II battle is as sharp as ever.
PAGE 14

ASIA
North Korean leader Kim Jong Un and South Korean President Moon Jae-in meet.
PAGE 15

SCAN ME WITH A COMPATIBLE QR READER TO KEEP UPDATED ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS.

Memorial Day Observance

Photos By JON PEREZ

Joint Region Marianas/U.S. Naval Forces Marianas commander Rear Adm. Shoshana Chatfield, left, gives a flower to a relative of a fallen CNMI serviceman in yesterday's commemoration of Memorial Day at the Veterans Cemetery in Marpi.

A member of the Saipan Pacific Winds Concert Band performs taps as a moment of silence is observed during yesterday's commemoration of Memorial Day at the Veterans Cemetery in Marpi.

Joint Region Marianas/U.S. Naval Forces Marianas Commander Rear Adm. Shoshana Chatfield, right, salutes as Department of Public Safety officers give the 21-gun salute.

Joint Region Marianas/U.S. Naval Forces Marianas commander Rear Adm. Shoshana Chatfield, center, greets a relative of a CNMI servicemen who's buried at the Veterans Cemetery as Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, left, looks on.

Sam Sosa plays *Amazing Grace* on bagpipes in remembering fallen soldiers during yesterday's commemoration of Memorial Day at the Veterans Cemetery in Marpi.

A relative of a fallen soldier prays during yesterday's commemoration of Memorial Day at the Veterans Cemetery in Marpi.

The Saipan Pacific Winds Concert Band provides music during yesterday's commemoration of Memorial Day at the Veterans Cemetery in Marpi.

The Marianas High School Dolphin Battalion was tasked to assist in yesterday's Memorial Day ceremony at the Veterans Cemetery in Marpi.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, eighth left, and Joint Region Marianas/U.S. Naval Forces Marianas commander Rear Adm. Shoshana Chatfield, sixth left, join other dignitaries and other veterans after the wreath-laying ceremony.

Tourism Topics
A bi-weekly update from the Marianas Visitors Authority
Tourism is everybody's business.
The Marianas
| Saipan | Tinian | Rota |
HAFA ADAI & TIBOW WAY

May Tourism Month Trivia

What is the English Facebook page of the Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA) called? What is the newest signature event of the MVA, first held in April 2018? So far this fiscal year, visitors from which country comprise the largest percentage of visitors to The Marianas?

These are just some of the questions the MVA is posing to listeners on local radio stations in celebration of May Tourism Month. As part of this month's celebration, listeners have been invited to call in with the correct answers to win Tourism Month t-shirts and tokens for the Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival & Beer Garden. Partnering with the MVA this year have been KCNM-KZMI, KKMP and Power 99.

So do you know the correct answers to these questions?

The English Facebook page of the MVA is "My Marianas." The MVA also have language-specific social media outlets in its major off-shore markets, including China, Korea, Japan, Taiwan, and Russia.

The newest signature event of the MVA is Rota Coffee Marathon. On April 14, 2018, this event was held for the first time, attracting runners from Rota, Saipan, and Japan to explore the wild coffee plantations of beautiful Rota.

And so far this fiscal year, most visitors to The Marianas are arriving from Korea, about 48%. This is followed by China (37%) and Japan (9%).

Happy Tourism Month!

Local

Habitual offender allegedly assaulted girlfriend

A habitual offender who is on probation was arrested Thursday night in Garapan for allegedly assaulting his girlfriend, despite a court order that prohibits him from having any contact with her.

Police detectives found 29-year-old Michael Jordan Palacios Cabrera hiding behind a water heater during a search at the home of an owner of a car rental company.

A witness, who was then driving along Fuetsa Loop on Navy Hill in the afternoon of May 18, saw a woman sitting on the roadside, crying. Her hair was messy and her face had blood. The witness stated that the woman appeared to be traumatized as she was shaking and kept asking him to take her away from Cabrera. The woman was later identified as Cabrera's girlfriend.

Last Thursday night, police detectives, acting on information about Cabrera's whereabouts, served him with an arrest warrant issued by Superior Court Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio on charges of contempt, violating an order for protection, disturbing the peace, and assault and battery.

At a hearing last Friday afternoon, Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho imposed a $10,000 cash bail on Cabrera and set the preliminary hearing for May 31 at 1:30pm.

According to police, a police officer responded last May 18 at 1:12pm to a reported disturbance at the lighthouse on Navy Hill.

Upon arriving at the lighthouse, the officer met with Cabrera's girlfriend, who had watery eyes and had bloodstains on her white shirt and arms.

The girlfriend told the police that she asked Cabrera to drop her home, but instead he took her to the lighthouse. She stated that she tried to run away but Cabrera chased her. She screamed for help but he caught her, covered her mouth, and stuck his fingers in her mouth. She bit him and continued to scream for help. A passing car stopped at the commotion. The witness, who later called the police, stated that when he stopped, she ran to his car. The woman got in his car and pleaded with him to take her away because she does not want to be near Cabrera.

Cabrera followed her to the car and repeatedly asked her to get out. The witness then called the police as other bystanders came.

Last May 16, Cabrera's uncle, who was serving as a third-party custodian for the suspect in a prior criminal case, reported to police that Cabrera left the house in violation of the court's order.

The uncle told police that when he woke up, Cabrera was no longer at the house and only returned last May 19. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

QQ RENT A CAR
Starting as low as... $29.99 for a 3rd Party Insurance
Call: 233-8855, 483-8866 or 233-8866
$100 Security Deposit Required
Garapan • Susupe
Some conditions may apply

Yamamoto says he should not be penalized for ending his lawsuit

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Takahisa Yamamoto asserts that he should not be penalized for seeking a swift resolution to his lawsuit against Lt. Gov. Victor Hocog and Luta Mermaid LLC and its officers after recognizing that this case cannot proceed and for seeking its dismissal.

Yamamoto, through counsel George L. Hasselback, said should the U.S. District Court for the NMI determine that it will condition the dismissal of his claims upon his payment of attorney's fees and costs, which he believes it should not, he should be given the opportunity to withdraw or amend his motion to seek dismissal with prejudice.

Dismiss with prejudice means Yamamoto can no longer re-file his lawsuit. He recently filed the motion to dismiss without prejudice, which allows him to re-file the matter.

Yamamoto expressed his opposition to attorney's fees in his reply Thursday to Luta Mermaid's and its officers' response to his motion to dismiss.

Abelina T. Mendiola, Deron T. Mendiola, and Fidel S. Mendiola III are officers of Luta Mermaid LLC.

Citing precedent, Hasselback said "when a plaintiff dismisses an action with prejudice, attorneys' fees are usually not a proper condition of dismissal because the defendant cannot be made to defend again."

Yamamoto recently notified the court of his intent to dismiss his lawsuit against Hocog, and then-M/V *Luta* owner Luta Mermaid LLC, and its officers.

Luta Mermaid and the Mendiolas, through their counsel William M. Fitzgerald, stated that the court found that the arrest of M/V *Luta* was improper and that Yamamoto did not have probable cause to arrest the vessel, and that the arrest could not stand.

Fitzgerald said his clients spent considerable sums in payment of costs and attorneys' fees to gain release of the vessel and the dismissal of the suit should be conditioned upon an order requiring Yamamoto to pay such costs and fees.

In Yamamoto's reply Thursday, Hasselback argued that due to the current state of this case, it is clear that none of the parties are contemplating this matter to a trial on the merits.

Hasselback said Yamamoto's motion to dismiss recognizes this fact and attempts to save the court and the parties significant time, money, and resources by bringing this matter to its end as quickly as possible.

Last Oct. 16, the court issued a case management scheduling order that set the deadlines by which all parties were to conduct pretrial discovery and motion practice.

Hasselback said to date, none of the parties have conducted any pretrial discovery, and the dates for that pretrial discovery have passed.

Hasselback said there has been no written discovery served upon the defendants by Yamamoto nor upon Yamamoto by the defendants.

Hassselback said there have been no depositions scheduled and there have been no experts disclosed.

In short, he said, all of the parties have done nothing since October 2017 to advance this matter other than to discuss the terms upon which it shall be dismissed.

Hasselback said given this lack of any pretrial discovery progress, the court would be justified in dismissing with prejudice all claims and counterclaims in this matter.

He said being unable to reach an agreement as to a mutual dismissal of all claims, Yamamoto recognized that this case cannot proceed and has sought dismissal.

Hasselback earlier told *Saipan Tribune* that the cargo ship M/V *Luta* is already in Guam and that another company now owns the vessel.

See YAMAMOTO on Next Page

Free Samsung Galaxy S7
Congrats
your adventure begins now
GRADUATION BE
The world is yours. Explore it. Bring the Samsung Galaxy S7 with you. Get your Samsung Galaxy S7 for FREE when you sign up for a $50 plan or higher.*
store.ite.net ite_cnmi ite.cnmi
*Terms & conditions apply. Customers signing up for $50 Plan or higher can get a free Samsung S7. Offer available from May 17 to June 7 or while supplies last. Credit check or additional security deposit may be required. See stores for details or go to www.ite.net.
EXPLORE YOUR WORLD
IT&E

HANMI donates $1K to NMTI

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands donated $1,000 to the Northern Marianas Trades Institute in support of its programs.

During the 20th Annual Taste of the Marianas, HANMI chair Gloria Cavanagh announced that HANMI would like to support programs offered by NMTI such as the culinary program.

"It is something the hotel association really supports and others should support as well because the people that come out of this institution is actually our future," she said.

According to Cavanagh, it is important to support NMTI for their efforts to train locals in critically needed professions.

"We need to train our local people to take over positions especially when it comes to culinary," she said.

Cavanagh mentioned that due to the current issues the CNMI is facing with the CNMI-Only Transitional Workers visa, the CNMI is in need of local chefs to fill the need.

NMTI president Agnes McPhetres said that NMTI is always grateful when they receive donations from their partners.

"This $1,000 will take us a long way. Every donation, every penny that we receive from our partners help our students to continue with what they're aspiring to be," she said.

KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA

Representatives of the Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands hands a check of $1,000 to Northern Marianas Trades Institute president Agnes McPhetres (middle) during the 20th Annual Taste of the Marianas.

JARDINERO

From Page 1

bored with her usual office-home routine. That's when she hit on the idea of enrolling at the Northern Marianas College in 2012.

After six years of balancing work and studies, the now 60-year-old finished her associate degree in Business Administration with Computer Applications as emphasis. Graduating with cum laude honors made it sweeter.

"I [didn't want to be] idle and I had nothing [else] to do, nowhere to go after office hours, so might as well study," the Manila-born Jardinero told *Saipan Tribune*.

The 60-year-old mother of four chose Computer Applications as her course at NMC after two of her sons earned computer-related degrees.

"We are in a world that is in the technological age. Today's youth are computer savvy. I've heard that employees or people in advancing age are difficult to teach because they are not into the tech world," said Jardinero.

"I challenged myself that I am teachable and [I'm] willing to learn. Computer applications emphasis was my first choice because my two sons were graduates of multimedia (eldest) and computer apps (youngest)."

Her eldest son finished his multimedia arts degree at College of St. Benilde in Manila while her three other children—two daughters and another son—are also NMC graduates.

Jardinero's eldest daughter graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Education degree with Elementary Education as major in 2015. Her daughter taught for two years at the Tanapag Middle School.

Her other daughter finished with a Rehabilitation and Human Services major and is currently a teacher at Marianas High School, while her youngest is pursuing his bachelor's degree at Everett Community College in Washington State after graduating at NMC in 2012 (AAS-BA Computer Applications).

Jardinero is not yet done. She is still one subject short of earning her AAS-BA with Accounting emphasis. After that, she plans to take up one more course—either a bachelor's degree in accounting or nursing.

She, however, is leaning toward nursing after hearing news that most jobs in various industries would be phased out in the future but not in the medical field.

"Nursing is my other option. Nursing courses/subjects are very challenging because of the thick books to read and the medical terminologies, which means more time to spend on studies," added Jardinero, who has been with TanHoldings Corp. since 1995.

Before studying in 2012, the last time she was inside a classroom—typing—was in 1976 at the Jetwriting School of the Philippines. Her first day at NMC seemed totally new to her.

"I was really nervous because…it was 36 years ago when I last attended classes. [But] there's no turning back. I just kept praying to God for wisdom," Jardinero said. "My classmates and professors were helpful and they did not discriminate against me because of my age. My classmates were all respectful."

Her greatest challenge was time management. "Reading time, and juggling work with studies, homework, and deadlines."

TORRES

From Page 1

adult gaming establishments, including poker parlors, in these areas.

"While I agree with the interest and intent of the delegation to support the economic growth and business development and provide funding to important community activities, I am unable to approve of H.L.B. 20-48, S1 as I maintain reservations about the nature of the economic growth if this bill were to be enacted," Torres said in his veto transmittal letter to Sablan, who chairs the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation, which passed the bill.

According to a previous statement from Sablan, the poker machines affected would cost the CNMI government about $1.4 million in revenue from the annual poker machine licensing fee. The $1.4 million also acts as a source of revenue for the scholarship program Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance.

Torres told Sablan, however, that he is "proud of previous actions taken by the Legislature in effectively transferring gambling activities away from our villages and creating the framework to eliminate any harm their presence can bring to our community. I still believe this policy is necessary and [I] am confident our joint efforts in creating economic growth in various other sectors of our economy can provide the resources of the constituents of [Saipan and the Northern Islands]."

Torres did acknowledge the substantial loss of revenue to the programs supported by funding provided by poker and pachinko license fees. "Revenue from these fees supports worthwhile activities such as the Northern Marianas Trades Institute, non-profit and community organizations throughout our community, and the SHEFA program, which is a crucial lifeline to students of our islands who wish to improve their lives through higher education," he said, adding that he recently enacted S.L.L. 20-24, which allocates $3.3 million from the poker and pachinko license fees toward NMTI, the CNMI Drug Court, the Micronesia Islands Nature Alliance, and several infrastructure projects on Saipan.

The Commonwealth Zoning Office earlier opposed the bill, saying it completely contradicts a previous Saipan Local Law—S.L.L. 18-5–which moves poker establishments away from villages.

DOL

From Page 1

bound by CNMI law to shoulder the repatriation costs of their foreign worker.

"To my knowledge, that statute has never been amended or repealed and therefore, remains in effect," Benavente said, citing Section 4954(a) of the Commonwealth Code Title 3.

"For the purposes of this section, a person employing a foreign national worker without an approved employment contract or identification card or otherwise in violation of Commonwealth law may be held jointly and severally liable for repatriation costs whenever assessed," adds the statute.

Specifically, this language opens the possibility of charging other de-facto employer with repatriation costs for illegally employing foreign workers.

A similar statement appears in the Northern Mariana Islands Administrative Code, Section 80-20.1-330(u), which also expresses a similar intent.

"The last employer of record is responsible for all of the costs of repatriation of a foreign national worker. Repatriation costs include the costs with respect to the embalming and transport of deceased workers back to the point of hire," states a portion of the provision.

Benavente stated that the two provisions are what mandate the employer to shoulder repatriation costs of their workers who have had their CW-1 permits rejected and are required to exit the CNMI.

Saipan Tribune reached out to Benavente weeks after U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services announced their completion of the lottery selection of CW-1 permits for fiscal year 2019, which they also set in November 2017 at 4,999.

The cap was set in order to prepare for the upcoming sunset date of the CW-1 program on Dec. 31, 2019.

U.S. Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) has introduced S. 2325 to reset the CW cap for fiscal year 2019 to 13,000; provide additional validity to long-time CW workers; and extend the CNMI transitional period, along with programs under it such as the CW program and the E-2C investor program, to fiscal year 2029.

It passed the U.S. Senate but hit a snag when it got to the U.S. House after the House Parliamentarian deemed a Senate amendment that embedded an anti-fraud fee as a revenue-generating provision that could only be introduced in the U.S. House.

Over the weekend, U.S. Rep. Rob Bishop (R-UT) introduced a new CW bill, H.R. 5956, that is the exact same bill as S.2325—inclusive of Senate amendments. H.R. 5956 is co-sponsored by Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP).

HEROES

From Page 1

fices made by fallen heroes.

"We have the opportunity to experience what other countries don't and that is our freedom, the freedom that none of us should ever take for granted. This morning we are here to honor that and appreciate all the sacrifices," he said.

Chatfield, as keynote speaker, made the event special by choosing to participate in the CNMI's Memorial Day commemoration ceremony this year. "I am honored and humbled to be here with you today as we recognize the service and sacrifices of our men and women in uniform around the world," she said.

Chatfield said the purpose of a Memorial Day ceremony is to gather together and honor the men and women who gave the last full measure of devotion and as a result could not enjoy the freedom they fought for—the freedom America continues to enjoy.

"While we cannot gaze up at their smiles, we cannot shake their hands or share with them the warm embrace, we can still feel their presence here, especially today…They have inspired countless men and women to raise their hands in service, all answering the call of duty for the land they call home and the values that we all share," she said.

Chatfield also recognized fallen heroes like the late Corporal Derence W. Jack and the late Staff Sgt. Wilgene T. Lieto and their loved ones for their sacrifices.

"To the Jack and Lieto family and all the families who have lost their loved ones, and to our heroes, thank you. It is because of your continued courage and strength…that allows us to be here today and count our blessings. We have the utmost respect for you," she said.

"Please know that we hold each of you and your fallen heroes in our hearts and you and your loved ones are forever in our prayers. Their blood was not shed in vain; their examples stand as a beckon to our fellow countrymen and women that the ideals we hold dear are worth defending," she added.

Whether they were deployed overseas or served the nation from home, Chatfield said it is to these honorable men and women that America owes their gratitude for its freedom and its way of life.

"The men and women we recognize today gave their time, they gave their sweat, they gave their tears, and when they had nothing left to give, they gave their very lives…it is and will forever remain our duty…to preserve their memory," she said.

Dignitaries also laid a wreath by the Veterans Cemetery memorial and the Department of Public Safety also did a 21-gun salute.

YAMAMOTO

From Page 3

Hasselback also disclosed that Yamamoto has returned to Japan and that there was no settlement agreement reached between Yamamoto, Hocog, Luta Mermaid LLC, and the Mendiolas a.

Yamamoto is suing Hocog, Luta Mermaid, and the Mendiolas for allegedly refusing to pay back the $3.4 million that he put up for the vessel. The vessel was seized shortly after the U.S. Marshal Service seized the ship on Oct. 25, 2016. National Maritime Services was then appointed as substitute custodian of the vessel.

NMS later sued Yamamoto for failing to pay custodian fees.

Compromise in Judiciary mold remediation funding

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A compromise was achieved in Friday's joint conference committee that took up the appropriation of $15 million, most notably the $7 million the Judiciary is asking to remedy its mold problem and install new air-conditioning at the Guma Hustisia building in Susupe.

According to House Ways and Means Committee chair Rep. Angel A. Demapan (R-Saipan), his House Bill 20-164 is now ready for House and Senate concurrence.

He noted that a Senate amendment, which included lowering allocations to the Sugar Dock rebuilding project from $700,000 to $200,000, was scrapped. He said the rebuilding project funding was restored to $700,000, while $3 million set aside for reserve funding would be distributed evenly among Saipan, Rota, and Tinian.

"Those were the changes," said Demapan, adding that he has yet to see the committee report. "The Docomo [allocation] stays and the Judiciary [allocation] stays."

The Guma Hustisia building has been closed for nearly three months already. The Judiciary is asking for $7 million to remedy the building's mold problem and install new air-conditioning units.

H.B. 20-164 also included provisions to appropriate $1.3 million to Docomo Pacific, a private telecommunications company, based on a previous memorandum of agreement signed by Gov. Ralph DLG Torres back in 2016. The fee pays for a part of including Rota and Tinian in their fiber optic cable project at $650,000 per island.

The remaining $3 million, according to Demapan, was also left untouched during conference committee discussions. The remaining $3 million goes to land compensation of secondary roads and wetlands in the CNMI as certified by the Office of the Attorney General.

"They've pretty much ironed it out; they are just putting it down [in writing] with the staff, so hopefully by this week the committee would meet, formalize, and sign off on it and report it back to the respective presiding officers such as myself and House Speaker Rafael Demapan (R-Saipan) so we can…put it on the floor for [action]," Senate President Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan) told *Saipan Tribune* in an interview.

A product of the conference committee may only be amended during conference committee meetings. Both the House and the Senate may only vote to either accept or reject the committee report. Both the House and Senate must first accept the committee report before it heads to Torres for enactment.

'Spam in NMI not included in recall'

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Spam products that are being sold in the CNMI are not included in the recall being implemented by the company, according to an official of the company that distributes the product here.

D&Q resident manager Max Kretzers said they immediately made an inventory of all the Spam that's either being sold in stores or inside their warehouse in Lower Base last Sunday to check if the product is safe to eat.

The Minnesota-based Hormel Foods Corp. has issued a U.S.-wide recall of more than 220,000 lbs of their 12-ounce canned meat product after receiving reports of shards of metal inside the product.

D&Q is a sister company of the *Saipan Tribune* and one of several business units under TanHoldings Corp.

Kretzers told *Saipan Tribune* that he joined other D&Q personnel in inspecting the Spam that's being sold in various stores on the island and the ones that are still awaiting delivery and distribution.

He assured the CNMI public that D&Q's batch of the popular brand is not included in the recall made by the Hormel Foods, which recalled some of the 12-ounce Spam Classic last Sunday.

"We're also waiting for more information from Hormel. But once we learned yesterday of the recall, we immediately checked all the stores and in our storeroom. We wanted to make sure everything is okay here," said Kretzers.

"We checked the information on the products and the CNMI is not affected by the recall. We're waiting for other specifics and reports from [Hormel] but the date and batch numbers of those being recalled are not here in the CNMI."

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety Inspection Service said Saturday that four consumers have complained that they found metal shavings while eating canned products sold by Hormel.

Cans of Spam that should not be eaten have the EST 199N designation due to the risk of oral injuries. The cans have February 2021 as its "Best By" date and have the following production codes: F020881 to F020889.

"We worked to quickly check everything and assure our customers that we're okay here in the CNMI," said Kretzers. "Our products are also shipped in other Micronesian islands, that's why we also contacted our other customers to see if there's any batch of the product that's being recalled."

Case's publicity prompts guilty plea

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Citing the publicity generated by the case, Ronald E. Biggers wants to just plead guilty to a parking violation citation.

Steven P. Pixley, who is counsel for Biggers, told the Superior Court last Friday of his client's intent to plead guilty to the parking offense in Garapan.

Pixley said Biggers, who is also co-owner of the Godfather's Bar, is also concerned about the continuing use of valuable judicial resources in this case.

With the filing of the notice, Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho gave Biggers until today, Tuesday, to pay the fine of $15 and $10 in court cost and provide a copy of the receipt to the Office of the Attorney General.

If Biggers fails to pay by today, the parties will have to appear tomorrow, Wednesday, at 10:30am at the U.S. District Court for the NMI courthouse.

Camacho suspended his subpoena to the secretary of the Department of Public Works and to the commissioners of the Department of Public Safety and Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services.

The judge also vacated the filing of defendant's written motion for judgment of acquittal, the opposition and reply to such motion.

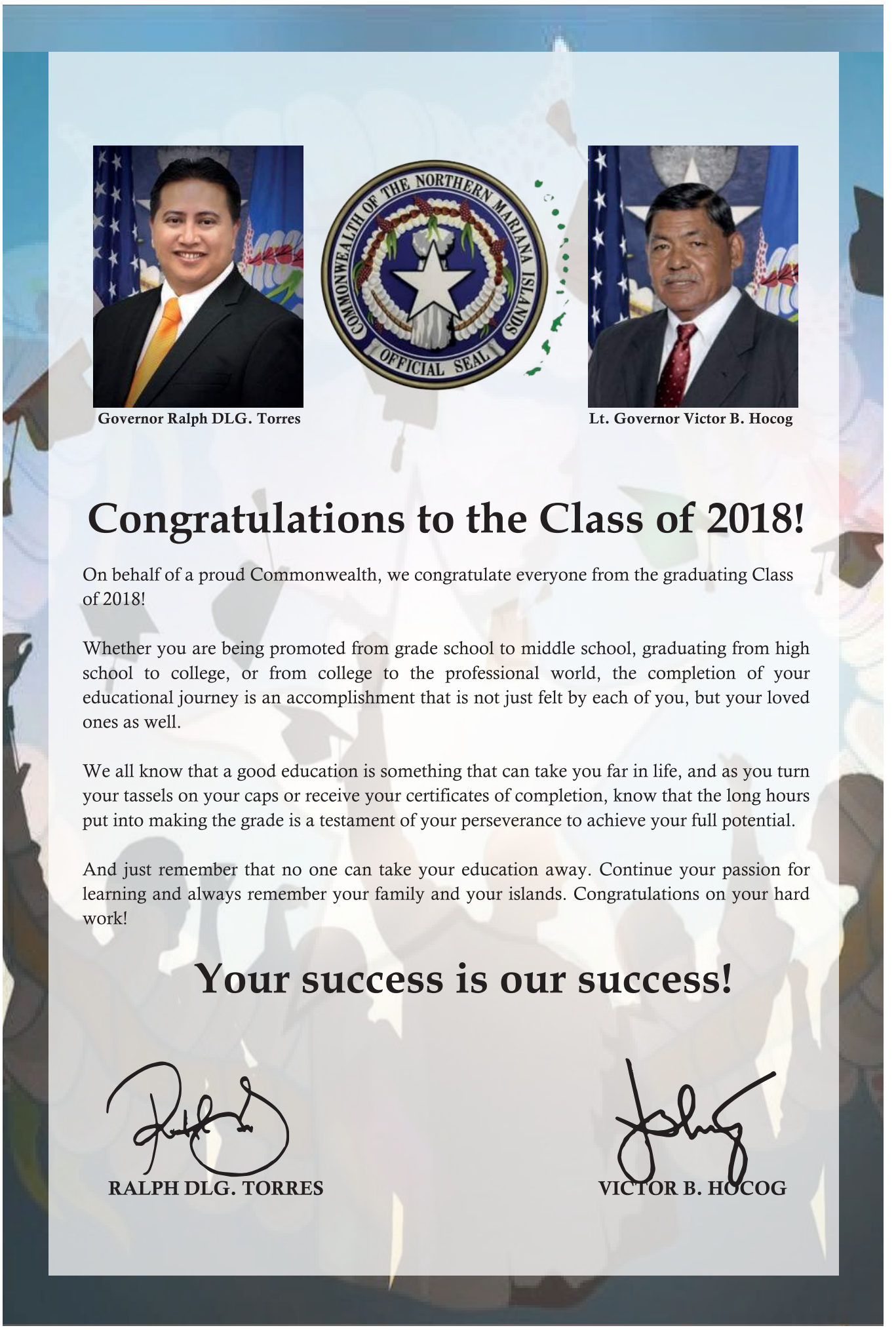
Last Wednesday, Camacho ordered the OAG to subpoena the DPW secretary and the DPS and DFEMS commissioners to testify as to the issue of legal authority and regulations to issue citations for parking violations.

Camacho issued the order after Pixley raised the matter of parking violation regulations.

At a bench trial last Wednesday, assistant attorney general Frances Demapan called one witness, DPS police officer Bradford Peter, during which some issues came up regarding the traffic code and regulations.

Camacho found that the issues raised whether there are regulations as to parking violations have far-reaching ramifications beyond Biggers' case.

Camacho set an evidentiary hearing to hear testimony in order to address the issues related Biggers' motion for judgment of acquittal.


Governor Ralph DLG. Torres
Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog
Congratulations to the Class of 2018!
On behalf of a proud Commonwealth, we congratulate everyone from the graduating Class of 2018!
Whether you are being promoted from grade school to middle school, graduating from high school to college, or from college to the professional world, the completion of your educational journey is an accomplishment that is not just felt by each of you, but your loved ones as well.
We all know that a good education is something that can take you far in life, and as you turn your tassels on your caps or receive your certificates of completion, know that the long hours put into making the grade is a testament of your perseverance to achieve your full potential.
And just remember that no one can take your education away. Continue your passion for learning and always remember your family and your islands. Congratulations on your hard work!
Your success is our success!
RALPH DLG. TORRES
VICTOR B. HOCOG

'Raising CHCC nurses' wages necessary'

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Commonwealth Health Center internal medicine physician Dr. John Doyle believes it's essential for the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. to raise the wages of nurses once they acquire H1-B visas.

CHCC, according to hospital administrator Jesse M. Tudela, is currently working in transitioning all of their CW workers to other employment-based visas.

Doyle said increasing the pay of nurses assures continuity in patient care and other medical services at the CNMI's lone hospital. "Because [they] can go if they have H1 [visas]. They can go wherever they want. But we need to keep them here."

He and Tudela said the CHCC, under Muña, is working on that. "This is very important and these are the kind of stuff that [Muña] is working on. All these things are going on with us all the time."

Doyle added that U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services should have prioritized the CW petitions of "critical employees" of the hospital. "Why are they not given top priority?"

"You take them and grant those [CW1 petitions], then put the rest [other workers] in the lottery. We [hospital] can't operate without our nurses. And that can't be blamed on [Muña]. What she's supposed to do? This is way beyond her control," said Doyle.

Tudela, who also backed Muña's re-appointment as CHCC CEO, added they are working hard in making sure that they have enough medical personnel that would provide medical care to all patients in the CNMI.

"[We], starting with our board of trustees, want to ensure that we have the manpower and personnel available to continue with patient care. …We are really working hard in applying and petitioning our CWs to [other] employment-based visas, like H1-B. We are already moving on that chain," he added.

Most of the CNMI's foreign nurses hold CW visas. However, no nurse at CHC has been selected for the lottery.

'Taste' breaks token records

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
Hundreds gather for the final night of the 20th Annual Taste of the Marianas last Saturday.

The 20th Annual Taste of the Marianas may easily have been the biggest in its history and token records were broken to prove it.

The Taste of the Marianas is known as the largest annual food festival in Micronesia where colorful tokens are used as currency. These tokens are usually obtained from the Marianas Visitors Authority booth for a dollar a token.

According to MVA community projects manager Martin Duenas, every night since the first night, the number of festival attendees grew larger and larger and token needs grew larger as a result.

"We've been breaking token sales records since Day 1…we have token records every night so we are able to monitor how many tokens we have to sell based on the redemption afterwards. Since Day 1, we broke the record."

The MVA booth was able to give out over 50,000 tokens throughout the month.

Duenas said the expansion also played a role in the huge amount of people seen during all four night of the Taste of the Marianas.

"With the expansion of the space inside Taste, it really helped…we're quite happy about that. We've increased the number of vendors by over five so that is helping out as well with the food demands," he said.

Duenas said that MVA is happy with the turnout of the event and will strive to improve in all other areas.

"It's pretty good this year and we will continue to improve where we need to improve and keep what is working…we're very happy with the turnout," he said.

"Taste" also saw many firsts, such as the first world-class eating competition that was participated by international YouTube sensation Sachiyo Masubuchi and the first 5-lb burrito eating competition.

DPS sets checkpoints

The Department of Public Safety, Highway Patrol Section will be conducting occupant protection/child restraints checkpoints today, May 29, and May 1.

Today, the first setup will be from Chalan Monsignor Guerrero, San Jose to Isa Drive, San Vicente, from 4pm to 6pm. The second setup will be from Beach Road, Chalan Lau Lau to Beach Road, San Antonio from 8pm to 10pm.

This Thursday, the first setup will be from Chalan Monsignor Martinez, Koblerville to Chalan Monsignor Martinez, As Lito from 5:30pm to 8:30pm. The second setup will be from Beach Road, Garapan to Beach Road, Susupe from 9:15pm to 11:15pm.

Each checkpoint will last at least one hour and 15 minutes. These activities are part of the Department of Public Safety's Click It or Ticket Campaign Week. ***(PR)***

Commonwealth Zoning Board Meeting Agenda

Monday, June 04, 2018
5:00 PM, Tanapag Middle School Cafeteria, Tanapag
Tel: 234-9661 • Fax: 234-9666
www.zoning.gov.mp

A. Preliminary Matters
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Adoption of 05/17/2018 meeting minutes
5. Public Comments *(not related to files for discussion under item B. Public Hearings)*

B. Public Hearings:

1. **Conditional Use Application #2018-0748:** Share View Travel Corporation is proposing to occupy 4 existing 2-storey structures and 1 maintenance building with a total of 18 units to operate a Bed & Breakfast establishment. This use is classified as "Bed & Breakfast" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This project is located on Lot No. 1625 NEW-9-R2 in Gualo Rai. This area is zoned as Village Residential.

2. **Conditional Use Application #2018-1165:** Art Ridge Village Homes, LLC is proposing to construct a 7-storey structure to operate an apartment with a total of 48 3-bedroom units. This project is classified as "Multifamily or Apartment" and is permitted in the district as Conditional Use. This project is located on Lot Nos. 1925-1, 1925-2, 1925-3-1, & 1925-5-R1 (current Triple J Motors location) in Garapan. This area is zoned as Beach Road.

3. **Conditional Use Application #2018-1170:** New Century Hotel, LLC is proposing to occupy an existing 3-storey structure (former Sebastian Bldg.) to operate a hotel with a total of 48 units. This use is classified as "Hotel" and is permitted in the district as Conditional Use. This project is located on Lot No. 002 B 28 in Tanapag. This area is zoned as Village Commercial.

C. Communication

D. Old Business:

E. New Business
1. Operations Reports (Permitting & Enforcement)

F. Executive (Closed) Session

G. Miscellaneous
a. Other Matters
b. Announcements
c. Next Meeting

H. Adjourn

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the Board meeting, or if you require assistance, please contact the Zoning Administrator, Therese T. Ogumoro, at 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & 10 CMC 3511, et seq.).

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Zoning Board Chairman

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality
Division of Coastal Resources Management
P.O. Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 664-8500; Fax: (670) 664-8540
www.deq.gov.mp

Ralph DLG. Torres, Governor
Victor B. Hocog, Lt. Governor
Eki D. Cabrera, Administrator
Ray S. Masga, Director, DEQ
Janice E.. Castro, Director, DCRM

NOTICE

WATER QUALITY STANDARDS AMENDMENT
PUBLIC HEARING

The CNMI Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality (BECQ), under the Office of the Governor, hereby notifies the public that a public hearing has been scheduled for the proposed amendments to the CNMI Water Quality Standards. The proposed amendments pertain to the requirement set forth in the Clean Water Act that States and Territories periodically review their Water Quality Standards, make any necessary changes, and provide for an opportunity for public comment.

PUBLIC HEARING:
Date: July 13, 2018
Time: 5:00p.m.
Location: 2nd Floor BECQ Building,
Gualo Rai, Saipan

The proposed amendments will be published in the June edition of the Commonwealth Register. A copy of the proposed amendments is available now for public inspection at the office of the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality, 1st floor of the Gualo Rai Center Building, Gualo, Saipan.

Written comments will be accepted up to thirty (30) days from the date of publication in the Commonwealth Register, and should be submitted to: Administrator, Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality, P.O. Box 501304, Saipan, MP, 96950 or by email to waterqualityreport@deq.gov.mp. Emails should contain the subject line "WQS Comments".

ELI D. CABRERA
Administrator

cc: file

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
Tel. (670) 234-6866/234-9447/234-7689/234-7670 - Fax. (670) 234-9021 Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp

Ralph DLG. Torres, Governor
Victor B. Hocog, Lt. Governor

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors, through its Chairwoman of the Board, is hereby giving notice that the Regular Board Meeting is scheduled on **Wednesday, May 30, 2018 – 9:00 a.m. at the NMHC Conference Room, Saipan.** The public is welcome to submit written or oral comments regarding the agenda below. Individuals interested in attending the meeting and needing special accommodations are requested to contact NMHC in advance.

I. **PRELIMINARY MATTERS**
a. Call to Order
b. Roll Call
c. Adoption of Agenda
d. Adoption of Minutes
(December 14, 2017 and February 20, 2018)

II. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

III. **CORPORATE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**
a. Divisional Updates
b. USDA RD Foreclosure Status

IV. **OLD BUSINESS**

V. **NEW BUSINESS**
a. Housing Rental Market Study
b. Personnel Matters
c. HFLP Income Limits and Max. Loan Adjustments
d. Return and Reallocation of Credits
e. Tinian Borrower Account Dispute

VI. **LEGAL COUNSEL'S PENDING/ONGOING REPORT**

VII. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

VIII. **OTHER MATTERS**

IX. **ADJOURNMENT**

(Note: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a) (7) and Section 13(c), the Board may vote to meet in executive session.)

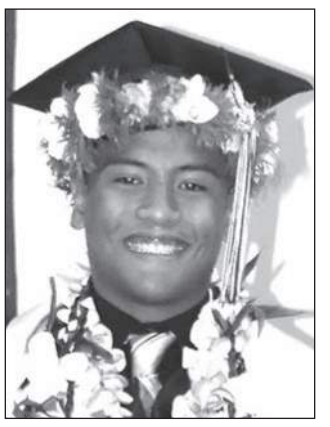
/s/
AUBRY M. HOCOG
Chairwoman of the Board

New chapter begins for GCA Class of 2018

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

GRANT CHRISTOPHER EICHENBERGER
Valedictorian

FRANCHESCA EDRALIN DALUSONG
Salutatorian



ART MATTHEW MAMARIL
Eagle Award

Grace Christian Academy 2018 class valedictorian Grant Christopher Eichenberger summed up his address to his fellow graduates with these words: A new chapter in their lives is about to begin.

"I would like to congratulate my fellow classmates on the milestone that we reached in our education. We all worked hard and tonight a new chapter of our lives begins," said Eichenberger in last Friday's commencement exercises. "We've encouraged each other and grown together. We supported each other through both the good times and the challenging times."

He thanked their teachers and pastors for helping them prepare for the next step in their adult lives. "We are blessed not only on the quality of education at GCA but also with the values that they taught us through the morality [they] lived everyday."

Eichenberger also recalled the times that they spent in and out their classroom at GCA, a story that drew laughs from his classmates, families, and friends who witnessed last week's ceremony.

"We've done everything, from joking about our teachers, making class phrases, and singing karaoke at Zooms, to performing cringy pep rally dances," he said. "We had a great last year at Managaha, barbecuing, swimming, and throwing cucumbers at each other. We also had grown close with the juniors. We're such lucky to experience all of this together."

Eichenberger added that despite their differences, they've become a family. "Sometimes, we had problems with each other because of our different personalities and interests. But the important words that I have to say to my fellow graduates: We had such an amazing time that we've become a family. I want you to remember that we should continue to support each other as a family."

Eichenberger also received the President's Academic Excellence honors and was runner-up for the prestigious Eagle Award to Art Matthew Mamaril, who also received the most valuable player and most inspirational player citations.

Kristina Tenorio was named the Outstanding Female Graduate, receiving the honors from Women's Affairs director Doris Drew and was also the recipient of the Barnabas-Encourager award.

The other academic and service awardees were Franchesca Edralin Dalusong (salutatorian), Miku Matsumura (third graduating with honors), Dianne Arnold (fourth graduating with honors, Citizenship Award, and Mock Trial Prosecution Star Attorney), Yujin Kim (fifth graduating with honors), Min Sung Kim (Christian Disciple), Charlestone Kim (Diligence).

Dalusong was also the high school girls' volleyball team MVP, while Amir Abes earned the high school boys' most improved player award and Pathompong Lamonrattanayothin received the most inspirational player honors.

Peter Jin Chen Deng, Sumin Kang, Joo Young Kim, Jon Ernest Lacorte, Miku Matsumura, Joshua Peter Tenorio, and Ezi Yan were the other graduates of GCA's Class of 2018.

VILLAGE PRIDE
Imperial Pacific International's "Village Pride Project," an initiative of its Corporate Social Responsibility office three years ago, is a signature community-centered initiative that aims to preserve the beauty of the islands and the environment. Here, the CSR team applies a fresh coat of paint to the Tanapag Youth Center.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Over 500 luminaries lit in honor of fallen heroes

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Over 500 luminaries lit up the American Memorial Park last Friday in memory of all those who lost their lives in battle.

In honor of Memorial Day, the National Park Service lit up luminaries in memory of each soldier whose names are engraved on AMP's Court of Honor walls.

One luminary was lit for every group of 10 soldiers. According to National Park Service park ranger Brooke Nevitt, there are over 5,204 names engraved on the Court of Honor walls.

"We hope people will come during the weekend and just walk and enjoy and take the time to remember the sacrifices that our Armed Forces have given us in honor of Memorial Day," she said.

The luminaries were lit on Friday evening and will remain lit for the duration of Memorial Day last Monday for individuals who want to pay their respects to fallen heroes.

Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang also recognized all the heroes that served in the U.S. Armed Forces and lost their lives in the process.

"The sacrifices and pain of achieving peace and securing a safe nation are immeasurable. We can only remember our brothers and sisters who gave the ultimate sacrifices for peace and lost their lives protecting it…We must honor and remember all fallen Armed Forces soldiers…and give them the appreciation for giving us the opportunity to enjoy living in a peaceful and secured nation. There is hardly any one of us can do to return the sacrifices and losses they encountered," he said.

Apatang also thanks all those who are still currently serving the country.

"To all surviving family members and to those who are still serving our nation in the Armed Forces…thank you for your services," he said.

How's Your Hearing?

Specializing in:

- Hearing Evaluations
- Custom fitted hearing aids
- Digital and ProgrammableTechnology
- Custom Communication Devices

Jennifer Ross, BC-HIS
Board Certified in Hearing Instrument Sciences
Email: rosshearingaids@yahoo.com

Wednesday, June 6th 9:00am - 4:00pm
at Marianas Medical Center in Garapan

Ross Hearing Aids

All interested patients should call Marianas Medical Clinic for scheduling
234-3925/7
Insurance accepted: AETNA and Medicaid

Hyatt's Borja rules Taste's Chefs' Competition

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Hyatt Regency Saipan chef Jonathan Borja's entry blew the judges away to rule the Chefs' Competition at the final Saturday of the 20th Annual Taste of the Marianas.

Organized by the Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands in conjunction with Triple J Five Star Wholesale Foods, the competition wrapped up the food festival, paying tribute to the Korean tourism market.

According to Guam Food critic Ken Stewart, the theme of this year's Chefs' Competition, which featured certified Angus beef, was Korean barbecue.

Last Saturday, seven chefs from some of the most popular eating establishments in the CNMI came head-to-head for a $500 cash prize and an automatic entry in the upcoming CNMI's Next Top Chef Competition.

The contestants were given one hour to create one dish that was Korean barbecue inspired. The contestants were required to use three locally grown vegetables of their choice and Triple J's certified Angus beef boneless short ribs.

» Competition pays tribute to Korean market

After a full hour of intense cooking, the seven chefs presented their final dish. Borja prepared a Korean barbecue-styled platter where he created three different variations of the popular Korean dish, kimchi, and he also gave the judges different flavors of barbecued short ribs.

"My winning dish was Korean boneless beef short ribs that I marinated three ways… We got one spicy chili marinade, we got a traditional marinade with a local twist to it mixed with mango, and the last one was traditional Korean beef marination with persimmon and cinnamon and I also made three homemade kimchi. One traditional kimchi, one radish kimchi, and one mango kimchi," he said.

Although this was Borja's first Chefs' Competition, he said he was happy with the outcome and he will be competing in the upcoming CNMI's Next Top Chef competition in November.

"I feel happy and I am thankful that my chefs pushed me to join this competition… I am happy with the outcome and I worked hard for this," Borja said.

Coming in second with an overall score of 341, just three points short of Borja's score of 344, was Grandvrio Resort Saipan's Richard Meimban.

Completing the top three with a total score of 312 was Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan's Vicente Montoya.

Miemban took home a monetary prize of $300 and Montoya was awarded a monetary prize of $200.

The other chefs who participated in the competition were Tony Roma's Daniel Atalig, Pacific Islands Club Saipan's Paul Enriquez, Bubba Gump Shrimp Co. Gregorio Muña, and Kanoa Resort's Francisco Codog.

KIMBERLY BAUTISTA

Participants and judges in the Chefs' Competition at the final Saturday of the Taste of the Marianas have their photo taken after the awarding. The competition, organized by the Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands in conjunction with Triple J Five Star Wholesale Foods, paid tribute to the growing Korean tourism market in the CNMI.

KIMBERLY BAUTISTA

Richard Meimban representing the Grandvrio Resort won second place in the competition.

Richard Meimban prepares his dish in the Chefs' Competition at the final Saturday of the Taste of the Marianas.

KIMBERLY BAUTISTA

Team CNMI performs in NJSDA showcase

Members and coaches of the CNMI National Junior Speech and Debate Association team pose for photos after Sunday's showcase at the American Memorial Park theater. JON PEREZ

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The National Junior Speech and Debate Association CNMI team gave a taste of what they would be presenting next month at the national finals, performing a showcase last Sunday at the American Memorial Park theater.

The 14-member CNMI team will be competing for the 11th straight year in the 2018 NJSDA national finals from June 18 to 22 in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

Dandan Middle School student Jonathan Wolf is going for a third straight title when he teams up with brother Lars in Duo Interpretation. He previously won in declamation in 2016 (Birmingham, Alabama) and in prose last year in Salt Lake City, Utah.

The Wolf brothers gave a lively performance of excerpts from the Disney movie *A Bug's Life,* drawing laughs from the crowd.

Western Pacific Region-National Forensic League board member Angela Wheat, in her opening remarks, said they have been helping the team with their pieces to become better prepared for the nationals.

"The kids had been around with us and we've been training these students at a young age. We had our successes and Jonathan Wolf, who had been with us since the sixth grade, made history for the CNMI. Now they know where the CNMI is," said Wheat. "You will be the ambassadors of the CNMI. This is not only for yourselves but also for your families, school, friends, and the entire CNMI."

WPR-NFL president Harold Easton assured parents that the 14 students will be taken cared of in their trip. "I assure you that proper transportation will be provided and they will be ushered to the sequence of events."

"They will also be properly chaperoned. We will make sure the kids will have a good time in the competition where they would get to meet other students from the other states," added Easton.

DMS has the most number of team members, with twins Oceana (poetry reading) and Issa Teigita (prose reading), and Juliet Inocencio (declamation), while Vivien Lu (extemporaneous speech), and brothers Redge Radge Palma (dramatic interpretation) are from Hopwood Middle School.

Patreisha Concillado (impromptu speech) and Elaine Fernandez (prose reading) are from Francisco M. Sablan Middle School and Cerinna Hwang (Lincoln-Douglas debate) and Dane Hodges (storytelling) are from Saipan International School.

Christian Pamintuan (original oratory) is from Green Meadows School and Jill Anne Mallari (poetry) is from Mt. Carmel School.

Concillado and Hodges were the only CNMI team members that failed to show up in Sunday's showcase.

Kristine Wolf (DMS), Maria Mettao and Marylou Dejillas (FMS), Lorelisa Espiritu (GMS), Victoria Nishida (HMS), Criselda Aldan (MCS), and Cary Betoncini (SIS) are the CNMI NJSDA national coaches.

Bordallo, delegates oppose federal ban on cockfighting

WASHINGTON, D.C.— Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo (D-GU) has opposed an amendment to H.R. 2, the Agriculture and Nutrition Act of 2018 (also known as the Farm Bill), that would impose a federal ban on cockfighting in Guam and in the other territories without input or consent from any the territories' representatives in Congress.

All five delegates from the territories opposed the amendment, saying it would unjustly supersede local laws and regulations on cockfighting, and it would impose a federal ban without any opportunity for the delegates to provide input or consent to the legislation.

Bordallo, Stacey Plaskett (D-USVI) and Resident Commissioner Jenniffer Gonzalez-Colon (R-PR) spoke against the amendment on the House floor.

While the amendment passed, the Farm Bill was defeated by a vote of 198-213.

Republicans had proposed cutting $23 billion in SNAP benefits and imposing a draconian work requirement on adult SNAP participants that would have kicked many beneficiaries off the program, including some Guam residents.

Bordallo joined her Democratic colleagues and some House Republicans in opposing the underlying Farm Bill, which ultimately failed. Therefore the Farm Bill, and the amendment imposing a federal ban in the territories, will not advance to the Senate.

"Guam and the other U.S. territories have enacted our own local laws to regulate cockfighting, and Congress should not force this ban on our jurisdictions. Today I stood with my colleagues from the territories in opposing this amendment and speaking out against Congress' attempt to outlaw this culturally significant practice. None of the territories' representative to Congress were given an opportunity to provide input on this amendment, and it is not right for Congress to dictate this matter on our constituents when we are denied an opportunity vote against it on the House floor." ***(PR)***

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Survivors, caregivers support meeting on Wednesday

All people facing cancer, their family members, and caregivers are invited to the Commonwealth Cancer Association support meeting tomorrow, May 30, 2018, starting at 5:30pm at the Hyatt Regency Saipan's Chamolinian Room. To RSVP or for more information, call the CCA at 682-0050 or email at ccamarianas@gmail.com. ***(PR)***

Nominees sought for MINA's Green Awards

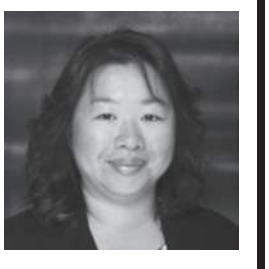
The Micronesia Islands Nature Alliance is seeking nominations for this year's Green Award for presentation at the annual Green Gala event slated for Sept. 14, 2018. The deadline for submission of nominees is June 1, 2018. Awards are given in the following categories, and nominations will be accepted from Saipan, Tinian, and Rota: Environmental Champion Award, Environmental Heroes Award, and Green Business of the Year. Submit nominations to rguerrero.mina@gmail.com. For additional information, call 233-7333. ***(PR)***

CNMI DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
AMERICA'S SBDC CNMI
CDA COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

FREE Small Business Development Workshops

Managing Credit for Financing

Monday, June 4, 2018
8:30am—10:30am
Location: CDA Board Room, 1st Floor, San Jose



Presented by:
Jane Ray, Guam SBDC Business Advisor

Ms. Jane Ray received her Bachelor in Business Administration with a concentration in Finance and Economics from the University of Guam. She then received her Master in Accounting and Financial Management from the University of Maryland University College. Ray has over 10 years of experience in bookkeeping, accounting, and managing small businesses. She also has extensive lending background in handling a variety of consumer personal and mortgage loan requests, commercial loan requests for larger and small businesses on Guam and in the United States. She specialized in handling commercial loan requests through government guaranteed loan programs, such as USDA Business and Industrial program and U.S. Small Business Administration. She was previously awarded the Small Business Banker of the Year Award by the U.S. Small Business Administration. Ray held management positions including Assistant Relationship Manager at ANZ Guam, Inc., Business Relationship Officer and Loan Manager at Coast 360 Federal Credit Union. She was also certified as Credit Union Financial Counselor.

Obtaining bank financing can be a roadblock for startup business and existing business. Understanding and managing owner's personal credit are keys to success if financing is the only option available for your business. In this workshop, we will examine the basic facts of credit reporting and factors that affect credit score. It also covers several distinct areas which will assist individual business owners to read and resolve errors on credit report, tips on managing personal credit, and the basic requirement on the SBA guaranteed loan program. This workshop will pre-pare small business owners when financing is needed down the road.

Limited Seating. Register now at: pisbdcn.ecenterdirect.com
For more information or to reserve your seats today, contact the CNMI SBDC at 670-664-3018 or visit www.pacificsbdc.com

DISCLAIMER: The Pacific Islands SBDC Network is funded in part through a co-operative agreement with the U.S. Small Business Admin-istration. All opinions, conclusions or recommendations expressed are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the SBA. Requests for reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities will be made if requested at least two weeks in advance. Language assistance services are available for limited English proficient individuals with enough advance notice. For arrangements, please contact Lorie Pangilinan, P.O. Box 5795 CHRB, Saipan MP 96950 Tel: (670)664-3018 or Email lorie@pacificsbdc.com. Services are extended to the public on a non-discriminatory basis.

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXVIII, Issue No. 105

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950

Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com

Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com

MEMBER

The Associated Press | Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

To kill a superbug

Scientists and political leaders have warned for years of the looming health peril posed by so-called superbugs—bacteria that have gained resistance to current antibiotics. Researchers across the globe are locked in an international arms race to find new, more potent antibiotics. This is a battle to the death—with tens of millions of lives possibly at stake: If superbugs prevail, common infections now widely treated with antibiotics (think strep) may become lethal for many people.

So we perked up at the news of a new class of antibiotics that can wipe out many infections in the lab and in animal tests, including some bugs resistant to many traditional antibiotics. Researchers at New York's Rockefeller University report the discovery of these antibiotics, called malacidins, in the journal *Nature Microbiology*.

Where did they find them? In dirt. Researchers extract DNA from the soil samples and then grow it in the lab and test its ability to KO bacteria.

This is an exciting development for the human side of this arms race. But it's not a super-weapon to defeat superbugs once and for all.

One reason: There are too many bugs, and they're too wily to be defeated by a single antibiotic. Some of the fiercest bacteria have not one skin (membrane) but two. Drugs that work their way through the first may not be able to pierce the second. And then, if an antibiotic manages to defeat both shields, it may be ejected by what's known as an "efflux pump" in the cell. Think nightclub bouncer.

Another reason: These malacidins face years of testing before they may be ready for human use. "It's a long road from exciting things happening in the lab to getting through a clinical process to the patient's bedside," Kathy Talkington, director of the Pew Charitable Trusts' antibiotic resistance project, tells us. The odds are stacked against new antibiotic products: Historically, only 1 in 5 infectious disease drugs that enters clinical testing will ultimately be proven safe and effective enough to reach the market, according to Pew.

For the past few years, Pew has been tracking the pipeline of antibiotics in clinical development that carry the potential to treat or prevent serious resistant bacterial infections. Prognosis: Too few new antibiotics are in development to treat the most dangerous infections. Of those in development, only 12 have the potential to address the most critical pathogens.

That's why a joint federal-private partnership called CARB-X—Combating Antibiotic-Resistant Bacteria Accelerator—aims to kick-start early-stage drug development. The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases is awarding a new cache of seed money to develop new antibiotics.

Unfortunately, victory is not at hand. Ever more powerful antibiotics will face ever more wily bacteria. The arms race never ends in the quest to humble one of the fiercest enemies humankind ever has faced.

(c)2018 *Chicago Tribune*

When you're serious about talking, wash your mouth out with this and Call me!
Donald
SOAP
N. KIM UN KOREA
©2018 Mike Shelton cartoons.com

'Not being heard is no reason for silence'

By LOUIS ZHENG
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Editor's Note: The following is the text of Louis Zheng's speech at the Attorney General Cup speech competition last May 4.

Victor Hugo, a famous French writer, once stated: "Not being heard is no reason for silence." In a big group of people, there will always be those that will be unheard. In simple terms, if those unheard were you, it would not be illogical to feel that your voice does not matter. An enormous number of people living in United States territories, those outside the 48 contiguous states plus Alaska and Hawaii do not have the same rights. It is imperative to realize that not all Americans live in the 50 states. These are the people with American nationality who live in the United States territories such as Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, and the Northern Mariana Islands. Our voices and input are not taken to account as highly as our fellow Americans in the mainland because we are seen as second-class citizens. This is all the more reason for us to fight—for the reason that we are unheard, that we are invisible, that we are not afforded the same rights afforded to all American citizens. We should fight the silence.

As one can see, I am against the rulings in the Insular Cases, a set of opinions formulated about over a hundred years ago by the U.S. Supreme Court. It covered the governmental issues of the territories that had just been acquired in the Spanish-American War. While scholars dispute on the total amount of insular cases that have occurred, the renowned *Downes v. Bidwell* case remains relevant. In short, it stated that the Constitution does not necessarily apply to the United States territories. The two major ideas that were disputed were to either govern the indigenous people or to simply leave them be. The political leaders and policy makers at the time believed that the "alien races" of the acquired territories would have a difficult time understanding "Anglo-Saxon principles." This case in many ways shadowed the principles of "separate and equal" in *Plessy v. Ferguson*. Eventually, it was decided that an unincorporated government would be set up for the territories. This means that these territories (Guam, Puerto Rico, and Northern Mariana Islands) were not states but were part of the United States of America. Only "fundamental" rights would apply to the citizens and future citizens of these territories, such as property, unless stated otherwise.

Due to the limited rights of these territories, basic American rights such as voting for office in the general elections do not apply to us. Of course, the people of the territories are able to freely work in the mainland, but there are huge limitations for these people who were born on "American" soil. According Lana Birbrair, an expert in complex commercial litigation and employment disputes, "constitutional protections do not apply unless they are fundamental." That is a scary notion. To think that constitutional protections do not apply to the citizens of these territories, territories that we live in. It does not stop at constitutional protections, once again restating, it goes as far as our ability to vote in the Presidential elections. Let this sink in: we are talking about American citizens who do not have the ability to vote for their own President. How absurd and unconstitutional. Why is it that some people in America—a nation of the people, by the people, for the people—are not able to vote for their leader? How is it that some Americans are still fighting for equal voting rights in 2018? This clearly displays the outdatedness of the Insular Cases. Again, this was a set of opinions made about 100 years ago. They were also made by politicians who had differing morals and perspectives than the people and politicians of today. It should be common sense that not everything can or should stand the test of time. Policies are one of them. This is where I would like to focus.

As I stated earlier, politicians believed that alien races would have a difficult time with Anglo-Saxon principles. Imagine that being said today. It would definitely be construed as a racist ideology. Politicians then thought it was the logical choice—a choice that would be deemed unacceptable today. Americans knew little about the newly acquired territories. At the time, it was the "sound" option. The question I would like to ask is what about now. Times have changed and the citizens of these territories are now more educated than ever before. We understand the political system, and we understand that change needs to happen. What makes us less "American" other than the color of our skin and the differences in our vernacular? Ethnically I am Chinese and I have Chinese blood coursing in my veins, but I was born and raised here in the NMI. Am I less American?

Here's a fact. These territories have contributed to the United States in many ways. One way is the strategic significance of having islands in the Pacific as U.S. territories. Our islands are a way for the U.S. to have a placeholder in the Asia-Pa-

See SILENCE on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Docomo Pacific statement on public funding for Project Atisa

By JONATHAN KRIEGEL
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jonathan Kriegel is president and chief executive officer of Docomo Pacific, Inc.

The May 17 *Marianas Variety* article titled "IT&E Questions Legality of Docomo-NMI MOU" raised several important issues, but readers may have been left with questions about the public funds currently being discussed by the Legislature. Docomo Pacific would like to take this opportunity to clarify and correct the record.

In 2016, Docomo Pacific commenced work on Atisa, a second submarine fiber-optic cable system linking Guam and the CNMI. Although the CNMI government has committed to a one-time contribution of $3 million to defray the cost of landing Atisa on Tinian and Rota, to date the entire cost of this project—over $25 million thus far—has been paid solely by Docomo Pacific.

Atisa is truly a game-changer. CNMI residents now have access to the same products and services as their friends and family in Guam and the U.S. mainland. Even more significantly, prices have gone *down*, not up. In a time when the economic winds are shifting favorably for the CNMI, this is an unambiguously positive development for local consumers, businesses, and potential investors.

All of us will recall July 2015, when Saipan was suddenly plunged into digital darkness after the then-sole undersea cable was cut. For nearly three days, the airport could not process tourists' passports, local businesses had to refuse credit cards, and ATMs would not dispense cash. Then, less than a month later, Typhoon Soudelor destroyed much of Saipan's telephone and aerial fiber lines.

In the aftermath of these disasters, almost everyone realized that the second submarine fiber-optic cable was no longer optional, but rather an urgent issue of both domestic security and economic necessity. At the same time, however, the cost of a new cable was far beyond the local government's ability to fund on its own.

Moreover, even if a second cable were built between Guam and Saipan, the financial business case for connecting Rota and Tinian was almost impossible to justify, as it would add at least $6 million to the overall project cost, while reaching fewer than 6,000 residents.

After a series of discussion with then-governor Inos and representatives from Rota and Tinian, Docomo Pacific came to understand the importance of a "One Marianas" strategy that included all three islands.

Several potential funding sources for the Tinian-Rota costs were explored, including the Federal Communications Commission and the Department of Agriculture. When these proved unavailing, the CNMI government proposed a one-time contribution of $3 million—roughly half the cost of the Tinian-Rota segment—through combination of local ($1.3 million) and federal ($1.7 million) funds.

In March 2016, at a press conference at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan attended by local media, members of the business community, Gov. Torres, and members of the Legislature, Docomo Pacific, and the CNMI government signed a memorandum of understanding. The purpose of this MOU was to formalize our mutual cooperation to identify and allocate available funds, whether from Capital Improvement Plan funds, Technical Assistance grants, Casino Gross Revenue taxes or, BGRT tax relief. The MOU was also reviewed and approved by the attorney general.

This entire process, from start to finish, was completely transparent and public. Yet IT&E's comment in the *Variety* article convey the impression that the process has somehow been secretive, unfair, or simply a bad deal for the CNMI. The facts, however, tell a very different story.

First, on the issue of "public benefit for the taxpayer," in addition to the redundancy and economic security from a second cable, Atisa provides a significant source of revenue to the CNMI's tax base. In addition to the roughly $10,000 per year to the Department of Public Lands for Atisa-related landing sites, Docomo Pacific also pays 3 percent of business gross revenue tax on all of its Atisa-generated revenues, which totals nearly $500,0000 a year or more to the CNMI government. Docomo Pacific also pays tens of thousands of dollars annually to DPL in per-foot underground and aerial fiber fees, from which IT&E is largely or completely exempt.

Second, Mr. Oehlerking's remark about "corporate handouts" is surprising, particularly considering the long history of public subsidies and exemptions IT&E has received over the years in the CNMI. For example, in 2010, IT&E received $8 million in federal ARRA grants, (funds which Docomo Pacific was not eligible). Yet, at the same time, until the construction of Atisa, they charged CNMI customers (including Docomo Pacific) literally some of the highest rates on the planet for inter-island transport capacity on their own undersea cable. If the issue is a "level playing field," facts like these need to be part of the discussion.

Third, it is simply incorrect that the CNMI is going to receive "nothing in return" for helping to defray the costs of including Rota and Tinian in Atisa. In addition to the sizable tax revenues noted above, Docomo Pacific also provides discounted or free services to hospitals and clinics, schools, libraries and other government agencies such as the Office of Aging.

But the real answer to what the CNMI has gotten in return from Atisa is much larger: a second cable has energized the local telecommunications market, which has both increased availability and lowered the cost of product and services. This fact alone is a huge win for local consumers and businesses, who now have more choices at lower prices.

As a responsible corporate citizen in the local community, Docomo Pacific recognizes that the expenditure of public monies is never something to take for granted. We appreciate the partnership we have forged with our customers in the CNMI, and we support the ongoing efforts of the Legislature to allocate and disburse these funds for Tinian and Rota promptly. Meanwhile, our commitment to a One Marianas is unwavering. We are—and always will be—Better Together.

In memoriam

By EDWARD DLG PANGELINAN
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

We are all deeply saddened by the passing of a revered and illustrious leader and son of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, governor Pedro Pangelinan Tenorio. We are privileged to be present at this moment in our history to pay our respect and honor the memories of governor Tenorio and to extend our appreciation and gratitude to Sophie, her children, and their families for the services and sacrifices of governor Tenorio in bringing the many benefits to improve the general wellbeing of the people of our islands.

During his lifetime, governor Tenorio served our people in various public service capacities, first as a member of the Congress of Micronesia House of Representatives during the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands administration in the early 1970, later serving the 1st CNMI Legislature as a senator representing Saipan and as Senate vice president from 1978 to 1980, and as Senate president for the 2nd CNMI Legislature from 1980 to 1982. In 1982 governor Tenorio was sworn in as the second chief executive of the CNMI, and re-elected governor in 1985, and in 1997 was elected for a third term. During his tenure as our governor, he brought in millions of financial assistance from the federal government for healthcare service, education, infrastructure funds for the development of our islands, welfare assistance for our underprivileged citizens, food stamps, and other meaningful assistance. Governor Tenorio spearheaded the efforts to develop the private sector economy by promoting the tourism and garment manufacturing industries in the Commonwealth.

Socrates, the great Greek philosopher, advised us that the true measure of the greatness of a person lies in his character. I had been privileged for more than 60 years to bear witness to the character of governor Tenorio. He was a man of impeccable integrity, friendly, humble, witty, brilliant with a photographic memory, caring and, above all loyal to families, friends, and the people of the Commonwealth. He loved Sophie, his children and families, friends, and our people. And, as our public servant, he served us well with the full measure of his life.

We will miss and lovingly remember you governor Tenorio in the hearts of your people of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Edward DLG Pangelinan was chair of the Marianas Political Status Commission and the Commonwealth's first Resident Representative to the United States.

SILENCE

From Page 10

cific region; we are essential to the geopolitics between the Asia-Pacific region and the U.S. Secondly, in which I especially would like to highlight, are the military contributions these territories made to fight in the War on Terror. Guam and many other U.S. territories have contributed a multitude of our young people into the battlefield for the protection of our nation. Some never to come back, some come back physically but are mentally still at war in the field. Patrick Flores, a young soldier from Guam, alongside his father, told about their harsh time in the war. They stated how their comrades were killed in suicide car bombings. They stated that during their entire time during deployment, they didn't wear military uniforms that said "Guam's Army" but rather uniforms branded as the U.S. Army. Patrick finally states that they are owed these voting rights. Owed indeed. Paul leti, a Samoan soldier deployed to Afghanistan, had a similar story. In fact, he shared his story on America's Got Talent. It should be understood that these people are indeed true heroes. These are American heroes, American heroes who will not be offered American rights. It is truly ironic due to that fact they put their lives on the line as soldiers for their nation, but they are not able to vote for their commander in chief. We cannot let an outdated set of policies hinder that which are truly rights.

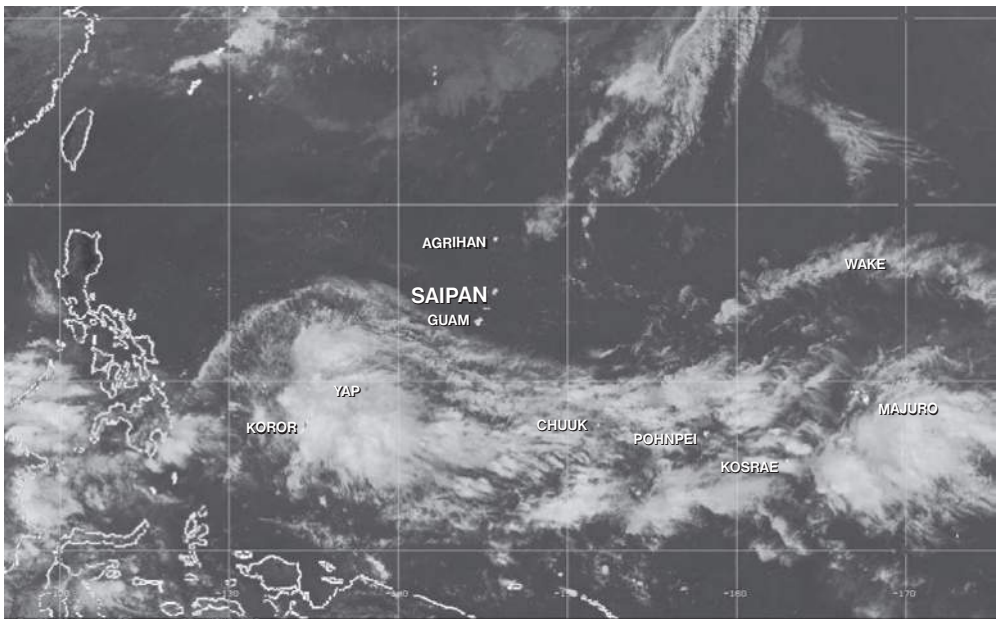
After all my research, I began to question myself, how American are these territories? We do not share the same rights as our brothers and sisters in the 50 states. The territories are bound to an outdated set of rules that can be easily changed if our federal government would put in the time and effort. This is American soil, this is America. We aren't some separate nation that is simply under the influence of the United States. We are legitimate United States territories lacking constitutional rights. Four million people. Four million voices. Four million that will not remain silent until our voices will be heard. The basic fact is that the *United* States territories truly need our deserved rights. After all, is American soil without American rights truly American?

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy. Isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.
▲89° ▼78°	▲89° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 7:03 PM, MONDAY, MAY 28, 2018
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Upper-level trough will act to keep us dry for today, later in the week though the approach of the upper-level low could change that. Since upper-level troughs and lows are one of our major sources of thunderstorms, we have those placed in the forecast starting Thursday. This timing may need to be tweaked later, for now it still looked pretty good. Marine conditions will remain benign most of this week with moderate winds and moderate seas.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorm	87° / 79°
Palau	Thunderstorm	86° / 77°
Yap	Thunderstorm	88° / 79°
Chuuk	Thunderstorm	86° / 81°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorm	85° / 77°
Kosrae	Thunderstorm	85° / 78°
Majuro	Thunderstorm	85° / 80°

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Sunny	57° / 46°
Beijing	Sunny	93° / 63°
Hong Kong	Sunny	91° / 84°
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	85° / 75°
London	Partly Cloudy	75° / 55°
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	75° / 61°
Manila	Thunderstorm	95° / 81°
Melbourne	Showers	57° / 46°
Miami	Thunderstorm	82° / 78°
New York	Partly Cloudy	88° / 65°
Osaka	Rain	73° / 66°
Paris	Thunderstorm	81° / 61°
Busan	Partly Cloudy	75° / 64°
Rome	Partly Cloudy	82° / 64°
Salem	Thunderstorm	81° / 71°
San Francisco	Sunny	65° / 52°
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	79° / 57°
Tokyo	Rain	75° / 63°
Washington, DC	Cloudy	86° / 70°

NMI CRIME STOPPERS
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
1:31 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.00
6:42 AM	LOW TIDE	1.93
1:58 PM	HIGH TIDE	-0.21
8:43 PM	LOW TIDE	1.84

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	5:45 AM	6:42 PM
Wednesday	5:45 AM	6:43 PM
Thursday	5:45 AM	6:43 PM
Friday	5:45 AM	6:43 PM
Saturday	5:45 AM	6:44 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	5:23 AM	6:25 PM
Wednesday	-	6:08 AM	7:18 PM
Thursday	-	6:54 AM	8:06 PM
Friday	-	7:41 AM	8:55 PM
Saturday	-	8:30 AM	9:43 PM

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Friday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of $180. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769.
E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 8, 2018

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA6394	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA6392	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA6391	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA6390	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA6398	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA6396	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA6391	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA6391	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

7C3451	3:10am	6:10am	1, 7
7C3451	4:00am	7:05am	4, 5

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

TW308	2:00am	6:05am	Daily
OZ626	2:10am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
LJ652	3:40am	7:30am	1, 4, 5, 7
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	5:40am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)

JD396	7:30am	12:00pm	1
JD396	4:50pm	10:00pm	4

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:10am	10:55am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	10:55am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	9:00am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	8:10am	7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via GUM
UA6398/183	6:05pm	9:40pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA6398/183	6:05pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6398/193	6:05pm	11:50pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

HX077	1:50am	5:15am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UO43	5:45am	8:40am	1, 3, 5, 7
UA6398/159	6:05pm	11:00pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA6393	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA6395	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA6391	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA6390	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA6397	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA6399	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA6390	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA6390	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

7C3452	9:00pm	2:10am+1	4
7C3452	9:05pm	2:10am+1	3, 6, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
OZ625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
TW307	7:45pm	1:00am+1	Daily
OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
LJ651	9:10pm	2:40am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:20pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN

JD395	8:25am	3:30pm	4
JD395	9:55pm	5:00am+1	7

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:25pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA182/6395	12:40am	8:05am	3, 6 via GUM
UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:25pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:25pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/UA6395	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA192/6395	10:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA184/6395	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
HX076	5:15pm	12:15am+1	3, 7
UO42	6:50pm	1:45am+1	7
UO42	9:30pm	4:25am+1	2, 4, 6
UA116/6395	11:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, LJ Jin Air, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The* Saipan Tribune *is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

Business

Visa woes have summer businesses looking to Puerto Ricans

PHIPPSBURG, Maine (AP)—Frustrated by red tape and visa limits on foreign workers, tourism businesses from Maine to Missouri are turning to Puerto Ricans who are fleeing a shattered economy and devastation caused by Hurricane Maria.

Bob Smith, owner of Sebasco Harbor Resort in Phippsburg, hired a half-dozen Puerto Ricans last summer for housekeeping, landscaping and kitchen work, providing relief to his overworked staff. This summer he is doubling the number, and he would like to hire even more.

Louis Morales, 50, of Comerio, Puerto Rico, is happy to be here because he makes double the salary he would back home, where jobs are scarce.

"A lot of people lost their houses, their jobs, everything. It's not the same now," said Morales, a maintenance worker who worked at Sebasco last year and has recruited more residents from Comerio to join him.

Employers large and small are seeking alternative solutions as demand continues to outstrip the annual allotment of 66,000 H-2B temporary visas, which are issued for workers holding down seasonal, nonagricultural jobs.

In this May 25, 2018, photo, Bob Smith, owner of Sebasco Harbor Resort, surveys his property in Phippsburg, Maine. AP

Critics fear that immigration politics were playing a role in program changes starting last summer. Compounding the uncertainty for businesses was a lottery system and background check delays on workers who come from dozens of countries from the Caribbean to Croatia.

On Friday, Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen announced 15,000 additional visas and acknowledged reforms were needed.

With Maine's unemployment rate below 3 percent, there aren't enough local people willing to take those seasonal jobs, Smith said.

"People say you should give these jobs to Americans. If you can find 'em, then that's great," he said. "The only Americans we can find to do the work right now are in Puerto Rico."

As U.S. citizens, Puerto Ricans face no travel restrictions and can work as long as they want. They won't solve the summer work shortage, but for some on the mainland it's helping as employers frantically try to fill slots, with Memorial Day weekend signaling the unofficial start of the summer tourism season.

Many mainland businesses have been hiring people from the Caribbean territory for years, and they sent recruiters after the hurricane.

More than 30,000 businesses closed and an estimated 130,000 to more than 200,000 left for the mainland after Maria struck as a Category 4 storm last September, causing more than $100 billion in damage, the government said.

In the Missouri entertainment mecca of Branson, about 400 Puerto Rican workers have been recruited over the past year to work in the hospitality and nursing industries.

"When we look at the available avenues to attract workers, we are very limited," said Jeff Seifried of the Branson Chamber of Commerce.

Trump threatens another shutdown as budget battle heats up

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Donald Trump has warned Congress that he will never sign another foot-tall, $1 trillion-plus government-wide spending bill like the one he did in March. His message to lawmakers in both parties: Get your act together before the next budget lands on my desk.

After a brief government shutdown earlier this year, Democrats and Republicans now agree on the need for budgeting day-to-day operations of government the old-fashioned way. That means weeks of open debate and amendments that empower rank-and-file lawmakers, rather than concentrating power in the hands of a few leaders meeting in secret.

But Capitol Hill's dysfunction is so pervasive that even the most optimistic predictions are for only a handful of the 12 annual spending bills to make it into law by Oct. 1, the start of the new budget year. The rest may get bundled together into a single, massive measure yet again.

The worst-case scenario? A government shutdown just a month before Election Day, Nov. 6, as Republicans and Democrats fight for control of the House and possibly the Senate. Trump is agitating for more money for his long-promised border wall with Mexico. So far, he has been frustrated by limited success on that front.

"We need the wall. We're going to have it all. And again, that wall has started. We got $1.6 billion. We come up again (in) September," Trump said in a campaign-style event in Michigan last month. "If we don't get border security, we'll have no choice. We'll close down the country because we need border security."

At stake is the funding for daily operations of government agencies. A budget deal this year reversed spending cuts that affected military readiness and put a crimp on domestic agencies. A $1.3 trillion spending bill swept through Congress in March, though Trump entertained last-minute second thoughts about the measure and promised he would not sign a repeat.

The demise of the annual appropriations process took root after Republicans took over the House in 2011 and is part of a broader breakdown on Capitol Hill. The yearly bills need bipartisan support to advance, which has grated on tea party lawmakers. GOP leaders such as House Speaker Paul Ryan, R-Wis., and his predecessor as speaker, Ohio Republican John Boehner, have preferred to focus on other priorities.

Ryan did throw his weight behind a two-year budget agreement this year that set an overall spending limit of $1.3 trillion for both 2018 and 2019, citing a need to boost the Pentagon.

That, in theory, makes it easier to get the appropriations process back on track. But in the GOP-controlled House, where Democratic votes are generally needed to pass the bills, Democrats are complaining that Republicans have shortchanged domestic agencies such as the Department of Health and Human Services and the Environmental Protection Agency.

That's not the case in the Senate, where the new chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee, Alabama Republican Richard Shelby, is determined to get the system working again. Senate Democratic leader Chuck Schumer of New York is on board, as is Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., himself a decades-long veteran of that powerful committee.

Addressing employee's performance issues requires higher-level support

YOUR OFFICE COACH

By MARIE G. MCINTYRE
McClatchy-Tribune News Service

Marie G. McIntyre is a workplace coach and the author of Secrets to Winning at Office Politics. *Send in questions and get free coaching tips at http://www.yourofficecoach.com, or follow her on Twitter @ officecoach.*

Q: One of my employees is impossible to manage. "Amy" fails to follow required procedures, refuses to collaborate with others, and consistently ignores instructions. Her behavior is so disruptive that people avoid working with her on projects. After receiving numerous complaints from both customers and staff, I have concluded that this cannot continue. I intend to have a serious talk with Amy and specifically outline the changes required if she is to remain with our team. However, I have some concerns about taking this step.

On four previous occasions, Amy complained to human resources after I gave her some constructive criticism. As a result, my boss called me in for a coaching session on the best way to communicate with her. Now I'm afraid that he may undermine my corrective action plan. How should I handle this?

A: As you have unfortunately learned, successfully addressing performance issues requires higher-level support. Otherwise, the problematic employee may simply bypass you in an effort to nullify your feedback. So before making a fifth attempt to correct Amy's conduct, you must be sure that management is firmly in your corner.

Provide your boss with a detailed account of how Amy's actions are hurting the business. Multiple complaints from customers and colleagues should certainly get his attention. Explain how you intend to proceed and ask him to approve Amy's performance improvement plan. Then repeat this process with human resources.

Given Amy's history, you might also consider inviting your manager to sit in on the discussion with her. Although you should be the one to deliver the feedback, a higher-level presence sends the message that her rebellious behavior will no longer be tolerated.

The hope, of course, is that Amy can reform, but entrenched personality traits are difficult to change. Therefore, you must also agree with your boss on the consequences of continued misconduct. And Amy must clearly understand this as well.

Q: As the CEO of this company, I am concerned about one of my key executives. "Doug" is extremely rude when communicating with employees and colleagues. He fails to listen, uses an abrupt tone, and generally demonstrates a lack of respect for others.

When I discussed this with Doug, he acknowledged the problem and expressed a willingness to change. To address this issue, I am planning to offer a communication skills workshop for our management staff. Does that sound like a good idea?

A: I'm afraid you may be mixing apples and oranges. If your entire leadership group lacks interpersonal skills, then training would be an appropriate first step. But if Doug is the only problem, putting everyone through a workshop is a needless waste of time and money.

Managers often make the mistake of employing group solutions for individual problems. However, such issues are more effectively addressed through one-on-one coaching. If you don't feel personally equipped to assume this role with Doug, consider using your human resources manager or an experienced career coach.

Finally, let me commend you for holding your executives to a high standard of interpersonal behavior. Many CEOs fail to realize that top managers set the example for everyone else to follow.

Nation

Bloody but forgotten WWII battle still haunts soldiers

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP)—William Roy Dover's memory of the World War II battle is as sharp as it was 75 years ago, even though it's been long forgotten by most everyone else.

His first sergeant rousted him from his pup tent around 2 a.m. when word came the Japanese were attacking and had maybe even gotten behind the American front line, on a desolate, unforgiving slab of an occupied island in the North Pacific.

"He was shouting, 'Get up! Get out!'" Dover said.

Dover and most of the American soldiers rushed to an embankment on what became known as Engineer Hill, the last gasp of the Japanese during the Battle of Attu , fought 75 years ago this month on Attu Island in Alaska's Aleutian chain.

"I had two friends that were too slow to get out," the 95-year-old Alabama farmer recalled. "They both got bayonetted in their pup tents."

Joseph Sasser, then a skinny 20-year-old from Cartharge, Mississippi, also found himself perched against the berm on Engineer Hill when a captain with a rifle took up a position about 10 feet (3 meters) away.

"I noticed about after 30 minutes or so, he was awfully quiet," Sasser said. "We checked to see if he had a pulse and if he was alive, and he was not.

"We didn't even know he had been shot," said Sasser, also 95.

American forces reclaimed remote Attu Island on May 30, 1943, after a 19-day campaign that is known as World War II's forgotten battle. Much of the fighting was hand-to-hand, waged in dense fog and winds of up to 120 mph (193 kph).

The battle for the Aleutian island was one of the deadliest in the Pacific in terms of the percentage of troops killed. Nearly all the Japanese forces, estimated at about 2,500 soldiers, died with only 28 survivors. About 550 or so U.S. soldiers were killed.

American forces, many poorly outfitted for Alaska weather and trained in California for desert combat, recaptured Attu 11 months after the Japanese took it and a nearby island, Kiska. It was the only WWII battle fought on North American soil.

The Japanese staged a last-ditch, desperate offensive May 29 at Engineer Hill.

"Japanese soldiers surprise American forces on Attu with a fanatical charge out of the mountains," recounts an Associated Press chronology of WWII events in 1943. "Savage fighting rages throughout the day and into the following night.

About 200 Japanese soldiers died in the assault, and the remaining 500 or so held grenades to their bellies and pulled the pins. It was the first official case of "gyokusai," a Japanese euphemism for annihilation or mass suicide in the name of Emperor Hirohito, which increasingly occurred in other Japanese battlefields.

Tomimatsu Takahashi told Japanese public television network NHK in 2010 he was being treated for a bullet wound when the order for the final charge came. "I was going to die, I thought," he said.

But as he headed out to fight, he collapsed, likely because he hadn't eaten in days. He was captured and sent to several mainland POW camps—including in Seattle, San Francisco and Chicago—before he returned home to Japan's Iwate prefecture in 1947.

His family already had a funeral and grave for him.

"I felt so relieved to be home," he said. "But I never thought I was lucky to be alive. I thought I survived because I was not lucky. I felt I was not supposed to come back, because those who went to war were not supposed to come back, and that's what we were taught."

After the battle, Dover said things went back to normal for the American soldiers—except one thing: "Somebody had to bury those Japanese."

During the war, the U.S. Army buried the Japanese soldiers' bodies with care, built a memorial, set up a grave post and paid respects to the spirits, said Nobuyuki Yamazaki, whose grandfather died on Attu.

Yamazaki was among a delegation of Japanese soldiers' descendants who attended a 75th anniversary celebration this month in Anchorage. The families have formally petitioned the Japanese government to have the remains returned, Anchorage television station KTVA reported.

"Japanese people find great comfort when the remains of the Japanese are buried in our homeland," Yamazaki said.

The Aleut people living on Attu Island also suffered losses, becoming the only North American community to be imprisoned in Japan during the war, according to the book "Attu: The Forgotten Battle," by John Haile Cloe.

While Kiska was unpopulated, about 45 Aleuts lived on Attu Island. When Japanese forces invaded, the Aleuts were captured and sent to Japan's Hokkaido Island, where about half died, most from malnutrition or starvation.

The survivors never returned to Attu. The Army said it would be too expensive to rebuild their village, and they were relocated after the war.

In this Aug. 1943 file photo, a bugler sounds taps during a memorial service while a group of G.I.s visit the graves of comrades who fell in the reconquest of Attu Island, part of the Aleutian Islands of Alaska. AP

Lava flow enters Hawaii geothermal plant property

HONOLULU (AP)—Lava from the Kilauea volcano reached a geothermal power plant on the Big Island on Sunday, approaching wells that have been capped to protect against the release of toxic gas should they mix with lava.

The lava breached the property overnight and was within 200 yards (183 meters) of the nearest well, said David Mace, a spokesman for the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Asked about safety hazards, he replied: "I think it's safe to say authorities have been concerned about the flow of lava onto the plant property since the eruption started."

A plant spokesman, Mike Kaleikini, told the news agency Hawaii News Now that the lava was as close as 130 feet (40 meters) from wells. He said there was no indication of the release of the poisonous gas hydrogen sulfide, the greatest fear should lava hit the wells.

"As long as conditions are safe, we will have personnel on site. Primary concern is sulfur dioxide from the eruption and lava coming on site. We monitor for hydrogen sulfide and sulfur dioxide on a continuous basis," Kaleikini said.

Steve Brantley of the Hawaiian Volcano Observatory, said the flow seemed to have halted Sunday morning after moving slowly into the proximity of the well overnight.

Lava had previously crossed onto an older part of the property, according to officials. But it's now on 40 acres (16 hectares) of the plant that are operational.

ACROSS THE NATION

George H.W. Bush hospitalized in Maine

BIDDEFORD, Maine (AP)—Former President George H.W. Bush was hospitalized Sunday in Maine after he experienced low blood pressure and fatigue, a spokesman said. Just after 2 p.m., Jim McGrath, a spokesman for the 93-year-old Bush, said he was awake, alert and not in any discomfort. He said Bush would spend at least a few days in the hospital for observation. Bush was taken to Southern Maine Health Care in Biddeford. A spokeswoman said Sunday all information would be released by the Bush family. Bush arrived in Maine for the summer May 20. Coming about a month after the death of his wife, Barbara, of 73 years, the family said the 41st president was eager to return to the family compound on Walker's Point. He has visited every summer since childhood, the only exception being the years of his World War II service. On Saturday, Bush attended a pancake breakfast at an American Legion post in Kennebunkport. He had been scheduled to attend a Memorial Day parade in the town Monday.

California robbery suspect shot through drive-thru window

SANTA ANA, Calif. (AP)—Police in Southern California say an alleged robber at a fast food restaurant was shot by a customer in the drive-thru lane who fired through a window before speeding off. Santa Ana Police Commander Michael Claborn says the robbery suspect was hospitalized late Saturday with multiple gunshot wounds, but is expected to survive. Claborn says the customer witnessing the holdup fired several times at the robber, shattering the drive-thru window of Cozy Corner Drive-In. Investigators say the armed customer is now wanted on suspicion of assault with a deadly weapon. Claborn calls the shooter's actions "very dangerous." The Orange County Register reported Sunday that the wounded man could face a robbery charge. He was not identified.

Police: Woman held captive slips note to veterinary employee

DELAND, Fla. (AP)—Florida authorities say a woman who was beaten and held captive for two days at gunpoint by her boyfriend escaped when she convinced him bring their dog to an animal hospital - and then slipped a note to a staff member. The Daytona Beach News-Journal quotes the Volusia County Sheriff's Office as saying 39-year-old Jeremy Floyd was arrested at DeLand Animal Hospital. He is being held without bond on domestic violence and other charges. The report says Floyd beat the woman Wednesday and refused to let her leave their home. Two days later, she convinced Floyd to let her take their dog to a veterinarian, although he wouldn't let her go alone. It's unclear whether Floyd has retained an attorney.

Asia

With US talks in limbo, Korean leaders hold surprise summit

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—North Korean leader Kim Jong Un and South Korean President Moon Jae-in met Saturday for the second time in a month, exchanging a huge bear hug and broad smiles in a surprise summit at a border village to discuss Kim's potential meeting with President Donald Trump and ways to follow through on the peace initiatives of the rivals' earlier summit.

Following a whirlwind 24 hours that saw Trump cancel the highly anticipated June 12 meeting with Kim before saying it's potentially back on, the Korean leaders took matters into their own hands.

Their quickly arranged meeting Saturday appears to highlight a sense of urgency on both sides of the world's most heavily armed border: Moon wants to secure a summit that he sees as the best way to ease animosity that had some fearing a war last year; Kim may see the sit-down with Trump as necessary to easing pressure from crushing sanctions and to winning security assurances in a region surrounded by enemies.

Kim, in a telling line from a dispatch issued by the North's state-run news service on Sunday, "expressed his fixed will on the historic (North Korea)-U.S. summit talks." The two Korean leaders agreed to "positively cooperate with each other as ever to improve (North Korea)-U.S. relations and establish (a) mechanism for permanent and durable peace."

They agreed to have their top officials meet again June 1 and to set up separate talks between their top generals.

The meeting came hours after South Korea expressed relief over revived talks for a summit between Trump and Kim.

It remains unclear whether Kim will ever agree to fully abandon his nuclear arsenal in return, despite Moon's insistence that Kim can be persuaded to abandon his nuclear facilities, materials and bombs in a verifiable and irreversible way in exchange for credible security and economic guarantees.

Moon, who brokered the summit between Washington and Pyongyang, likely used Saturday's meeting to confirm Kim's willingness to enter nuclear negotiations with Trump and clarify what steps Kim has in mind in the process of denuclearization, said Hong Min, a senior analyst at Seoul's Korea Institute for National Unification.

"While Washington and Pyongyang have expressed their hopes for a summit through published statements, Moon has to step up as the mediator because the surest way to set the meeting in stone would be an official confirmation of intent between heads of states," Hong said.

South Korean presidential spokesman Yoon Young-chan said Moon will reveal details of his meeting with Kim on Sunday.

U.S. officials have talked about a comprehensive one-shot deal in which North Korea fully eliminates its nukes first and receives rewards later. But Kim, through two summits with Chinese President Xi Jinping in March and May, has called for a phased and synchronized process in which every action he takes is met with a reciprocal reward from the United States.

Koh Yu-hwan, a North Korea expert at Seoul's Dongguk University and a policy adviser to Moon, said the South Korean president wants Kim to accept an alternative approach advocated by Seoul, in which the North's comprehensive commitment and credible actions toward denuclearization are followed by a phased but compressed process of declaration, inspection and verifiable dismantling.

Before he canceled the summit, Trump this past week did not rule out an incremental approach that would provide incentives along the way to the North.

Trump tweeted earlier Saturday that a summit with Kim, if it does happen, will likely take place on June 12 in Singapore as originally planned.

AP

In this May 26, 2018 photo provided on May 27, 2018, by South Korea Presidential Blue House via Yonhap News Agency, South Korean President Moon Jae-in, left, is guided by North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, right, at the northern side of Panmunjom in North Korea.

Trump says US team in NKorea planning summit with Kim

President Donald Trump said Sunday a U.S. team was in North Korea to plan a summit with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, raising expectations that the on-off-on meeting would indeed take place.

The State Department said earlier that a team was in Panmunjom, which straddles the border inside the demilitarized zone, or DMZ, separating the North and South Korea. One can cross the border simply by stepping across a painted line, but moving beyond several footsteps into the North at Panmunjom would be rare for U.S. officials.

Trump withdrew from a planned June 12 Singapore summit with Kim last Thursday, but quickly announced that it could get back on track. His tweet Sunday afternoon, which offered praise for the longtime U.S. adversary, was the latest signal that his concerns about the North's stance toward the summit had been allayed.

"Our United States team has arrived in North Korea to make arrangements for the Summit between Kim Jong Un and myself," he tweeted. "I truly believe North Korea has brilliant potential and will be a great economic and financial Nation one day. Kim Jong Un agrees with me on this. It will happen!"

South Korea's president, Moon Jae-in, gave details about his surprise meeting Saturday with Kim in the Panmunjom truce village, saying Kim had committed to sitting down with Trump and to a "complete denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula."

Talks with North Korea on a summit with Kim Jong Un were going "very well", US President Donald Trump said on Saturday. (May 26)

U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo tapped veteran American diplomat Sung Kim to handle pre-summit negotiations. On a separate but complementary track was the CIA team Pompeo set up last year when he headed the spy agency. And on a third track was a White House logistical group sent to Singapore on Sunday to prepare in case the summit takes place. It was led by Joe Hagin, White House deputy chief of staff for operations.

Kim, the U.S. ambassador to the Philippines, also served as ambassador to South Korea and was part of the U.S. negotiating team that last held substantive denuclearization talks with North Korea during the George W. Bush administration in 2005.

The Korean leaders' second summit in a month saw bear hugs and broad smiles. But their quickly arranged meeting Saturday appeared to highlight a sense of urgency on both sides of the world's most heavily armed border.

The talks, which Moon said Kim Jong Un requested, capped a whirlwind 24 hours of diplomatic back and forth. They allowed Moon to push for a U.S.-North Korean summit that he sees as the best way to ease animosity that had some fearing a war last year.

Kim may see a meeting with Trump as necessary to easing pressure from crushing sanctions and to winning security assurances in a region surrounded by enemies.

S. Korea: Kim commits to summit with Trump, denuclearization

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—South Korean President Moon Jae-in said Sunday that North Korean leader Kim Jong Un committed in their surprise meeting to sitting down with President Donald Trump and to a "complete denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula."

The Korean leaders' second summit in a month saw bear hugs and broad smiles, but their quickly arranged meeting Saturday appears to highlight a sense of urgency on both sides of the world's most heavily armed border.

At the White House, Trump said negotiations over a potential June 12 summit with Kim that he had earlier canceled were "going along very well." Trump told reporters that they are still considering Singapore as the venue for their talks. He said there is a "lot of good will," and that denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula would be "a great thing."

The Koreas' talks, which Moon said Kim requested, capped a whirlwind 24 hours of diplomatic back-and-forth. They allowed Moon to push

for a U.S.-North Korean summit that he sees as the best way to ease animosity that had some fearing a war last year.

Kim may see the sit-down with Trump as necessary to easing pressure from crushing sanctions and to winning security assurances in a region surrounded by enemies.

Moon told reporters Sunday that Kim "again made clear his commitment to a complete denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula," and that he told the South Korean leader he's willing to cooperate to end confrontation and work toward peace for the sake of the successful North Korea-U.S. summit.

Moon said he told Kim that Trump has a "firm resolve" to end hostile relations with North Korea and initiate economic cooperation if Kim implements "complete denuclearization."

"What Kim is unclear about is that he has concerns about whether his country can surely trust the United States over its promise to end hostile relations (with North Korea) and provide a security guarantee if they do denuclearization," Moon said.

"During the South Korea-U.S. summit, President Trump said the U.S. is willing to clearly put an end to hostile relations (between the U.S. and North Korea) and help (the North) achieve economic prosperity if North Korea conducts denuclearization," he said.

World

1 new Ebola death confirmed in Congo, bringing total to 12

KINSHASA, Congo (AP)—Another person has died in Congo of a confirmed case of Ebola, bringing the number of fatalities from the latest outbreak to 12, the country's health ministry said Sunday.

The death happened in Iboko, a rural area in northwestern Equateur province, the health ministry said in a statement. There are also four new suspected cases in the province, the statement reported.

Congo now has 35 confirmed Ebola cases.

Health workers have identified people who have been in contact with the patients in the confirmed Ebola cases in three areas in Equateur province, Iboko, rural Bikoro and Mbandaka, the provincial capital of 1.2 million that is a transport hub on the Congo River.

Congolese Health Minister Oly Ilunga Kalenga flew by helicopter to Bikoro and Iboko on Saturday to see the deployment of health workers who will be tracing people who have been in contact with Ebola cases and inoculating them with a new experimental vaccine. The vaccination campaign in the two rural areas is set to begin Monday.

AP

In this photo taken Sunday, May 20, 2018, a team from Medecins Sans Frontieres (Doctors Without Borders) dons protective clothing and equipment as they prepare to treat Ebola patients in an isolation ward of Mbandaka hospital in Congo.

Representatives of the World Health Organization and UNICEF accompanied the health minister.

The vaccination campaign is already underway in Mbandaka, where four Ebola cases have been confirmed. About 100 health workers have been vaccinated there as front-line workers face high risk from the virus, which is spread via contact with the bodily fluids of those infected, including the dead.

The next few weeks are crucial in determining whether the outbreak announced in May can be brought under control, according to the World Health Organization. Complicating factors include its spread to a major city, that health workers are among those infected and the existence of three or four "separate epicenters," making finding and monitoring the contacts of infected people more difficult.

WHO is using a "ring vaccination" approach, targeting the contacts of people infected or suspected of infection and then the contacts of those people. More than 600 contacts have been identified.

WHO also is accelerating efforts with nine neighboring countries to try to prevent the Ebola outbreak from spreading there, saying the regional risk is high. It has warned against international travel and trade restrictions.

"I am personally committed to ensuring that we do everything we can to stop this outbreak as soon as possible," WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus told a meeting in Geneva on Saturday.

This is Congo's ninth Ebola outbreak since 1976, when the hemorrhagic fever was first identified.

There is no specific treatment for Ebola. Symptoms include fever, vomiting, diarrhea, muscle pain and at times internal and external bleeding. The virus can be fatal in up to 90 percent of cases, depending on the strain.

WORLD BRIEFS

Austrian leader backs role for EU border agency in Africa

BERLIN (AP)—Austria's chancellor says European border guards should be allowed to go to north Africa to prevent migrants from setting off across the Mediterranean Sea in rickety boats. Austria will take over the European Union's rotating presidency in July. Chancellor Sebastian Kurz's governing coalition took office in December after a campaign in which both partners talked tough on migration. Kurz told Sunday's edition of German newspaper Welt am Sonntag that a new mandate for EU border protection agency Frontex should allow it "to act in third countries, with the permission of their governments, to end smugglers' dirty business model and prevent smugglers' boats setting off on the dangerous route across the Mediterranean." Each year, tens of thousands attempt to reach Europe in vessels that are mostly unfit for the open sea.

Powerful cyclone strikes Oman, Yemen; 6 dead, 30 missing

SALALAH, Oman (AP)—A cyclone more powerful than any previously recorded in southern Oman slammed into the Gulf country and neighboring Yemen on Saturday, deluging a major city with nearly three years' worth of rainfall in single day. The storm killed at least six people while more than 30 remain missing, officials said. Cyclone Mekunu caused flash flooding that tore away whole roadways and submerged others in Salalah, Oman's third-largest city, stranding drivers. Strong winds knocked over street lights and tore away roofing. Rushing waters from the rain and storm surges flooded typically dry creek beds. The holiday destination's now-empty tourist beaches were littered with debris and foam from the churning Arabian Sea. Three people, including a 12-year-old girl, died in Oman, and another two bodies were recovered from the Yemeni island of Socotra. More than 30 people were still missing in Socotra, including Yemeni, Indian and Sudanese nationals. Yemeni officials also reported damage in the country's far east, along the border with Oman. Rageh Bakrit, the governor of al-Mahra province, said on his official Twitter account late Friday that strong winds had blown down houses and taken out communication lines and water services. He said there were no fatalities in the province.

France's Macron to host Libya summit pushing for elections

PARIS (AP)—France is set to host a U.N.-sponsored conference on Libya aimed at securing elections in the North African country and commitments to a joint political roadmap from its warring factions. French President Emmanuel Macron's office said the conference at the Elysee Palace on Tuesday will bring together key Libyan players and representatives of two dozen countries and international organizations. Macron's office says Libya's rival leaders are expected to adopt a statement calling for presidential and parliamentary elections, "if possible" by the end of the year. The agreement would also provide for a plan to unify the country's rival security forces and to clarify the roles of competing Libyan institutions. Libya has experienced political instability since the overthrow of Moammar Gaddafi in 2011. Macron hosted a meeting of the rival leaders at a chateau in July 2017.

German nationalists march in Berlin, face counter-protests

BERLIN (AP)—Supporters of the nationalist Alternative for Germany party marched through central Berlin to protest against Chancellor Angela Merkel's government Sunday, and were kept away from a raft of counter-demonstrations by a heavy police presence. Police said over 5,000 people turned out for the demonstration organized by the anti-migration Alternative for Germany, known by its German acronym AfD. A variety of counter-protests against the far right attracted well over 25,000 people in total, they said. The AfD event opened with German flags, placards such as "No Islam in Germany" and chants of "Merkel must go" outside Berlin's central train station. The party's supporters then marched to the landmark Brandenburg Gate. Opponents chanted "Nazis out" from the other side of the monument. Some of the counter-protesters took to rafts on the Spree river, within sight of the train station. Groups organizing protests against AfD included artists and a coalition of Berlin music clubs hoping to "blow away" the party with loud techno beats.

Russia says 4 of its soldiers have been killed in Syria

MOSCOW (AP)—A clash with "terrorists" in eastern Syria killed four Russian soldiers and wounded others, the Russian Defense Ministry said Sunday.

Russian and Syrian government troops and pro-government gunmen have been fighting members of the Islamic State group in the eastern province of Deir el-Zour where the extremists resumed their attacks against government forces and their allies in recent weeks.

The Russian ministry said that the dead were military advisers attached to a Syrian army unit in the Deir el-Zour.

In a statement reported by Russian news agencies, the ministry said "two Russian military advisers, who controlled fire of the Syrian battery, died at the scene." It says five others were wounded, two of whom died in a Russian military hospital.

The ministry said 43 insurgents were killed in the nighttime battle.

The Russian statement came two days after the Islamic State group said its fighters launched a surprise attack on Wednesday from two axes on a joint Syrian and Russian forces convoy west of the town of Mayadeen, killing 15 Syrian and Russian soldiers. IS militants destroyed five army trucks and armored vehicles and damaged a rocket-launcher, IS claimed in a statement.

In the same area, IS fighters stormed three Syrian army checkpoints killing eight soldiers and captured five others, the group said in a statement.

It was not immediately clear if IS was speaking about the same area where the Russian advisers were killed.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, a war monitor, said IS fighters launched two new attacks in Deir el-Zour on Saturday near the town of Mayadeen and the town of Boukamal near the Iraqi border.

The Observatory said five days of fighting in Deir el-Zour killed 76 troops and pro-government gunmen as well as 25 IS fighters.

Russia has provided crucial military support to President Bashar Assad's forces, helping them to roll back mainstream rebels as well as the Islamic State group. Russia and Syria both refer to the armed opposition as "terrorists."

Focus

AP
In this Jan. 17, 2014 file photo, a smoker demonstrates an e-cigarette in Wichita Falls, Texas.

E-cigarettes disappoint in a workplace quit-smoking study

By MARILYNN MARCHIONE
AP CHIEF MEDICAL WRITER

It's a big question for smokers and policymakers alike: Do electronic cigarettes help people quit? In a large study of company wellness programs, e-cigarettes worked no better than traditional stop-smoking tools, and the only thing that really helped was paying folks to kick the habit.

Critics of the study say it doesn't close the case on these popular vaping products. It didn't rigorously test effectiveness, just compared e-cigarettes to other methods among 6,000 smokers who were offered help to quit. That's still valuable information because it's what happens in daily life.

Providing e-cigarettes "did not improve the number of people who quit compared to essentially doing nothing," said Dr. Scott Halpern of the University of Pennsylvania. "The very best way to help them quit is to offer them money."

He led the study, published Wednesday by the New England Journal of Medicine. It was sponsored by the Vitality Group, which runs company wellness programs. The makers of NJOY e-cigarettes provided them but had no role in the research.

Separately in the journal, another study reports that lung cancer rates are now higher for white and Hispanic women under 50 than for men that age, a reversal of a longtime trend that can't be explained by smoking patterns alone.

In a new study of company wellness programs, free electronic cigarettes did not help smokers quit more than usual methods such as nicotine patches. According to the study published in the New England Journal of Medicine, what works best is offering smokers money to quit. (May 23)

A patron exhales vapor from an e-cigarette at the Henley Vaporium in New York. AP

VAPING TO QUIT SMOKING

E-cigarettes are battery-powered devices that vaporize nicotine. They've been sold in the U.S. since 2007 and contain less toxic substances than traditional cigarettes. The Food and Drug Administration is mulling how to regulate them, and earlier this year, a national panel of experts said vaping may help folks reduce smoking but that more research is needed.

The new study differed from usual studies of smokers wanting to quit: It automatically enrolled smokers in 54 company wellness programs and asked those who didn't want to join to opt out. Only 125 did, but the vast majority of the rest didn't actively participate yet their results were tracked as part of the study.

They were put into five groups: usual care, which was information on benefits of quitting and motivational text messages; free quit-smoking aids such as nicotine patches and medicines like Chantix or Zyban plus e-cigarettes if those failed; free e-cigarettes without any requirement to try other methods first; free quit-smoking aids and a $600 reward if people were abstinent six months later; and free cessation tools plus $600 placed in an account at the start of the study that they'd lose if they didn't quit.

The results: Only 0.1 percent in the usual care group succeeded; rates ranged from 0.5 percent to nearly 3 percent for the rest. The groups offered cash did best; rates among the other groups did not differ much from each other.

Success rates were higher—from 0.7 percent to nearly 13 percent—among 1,200 smokers who actively participated.

COST

Average costs were less than a dollar per participant in the usual care group and around $100 for those given redeemable cash accounts. But when looked at per successful quitter, the cash programs cost less than e-cigarettes or traditional methods.

Most big companies offer stop-smoking programs and half of them offer financial incentives, study leaders said. It costs companies $3,000 to 6,000 more per year to employ a smoker versus a non-smoker.

WHAT OTHERS SAY

"E-cigarettes are substantially less harmful than burned or lit cigarettes, but that doesn't mean they're helpful for cessation" and they're not regulated for that, said Cliff Douglas, the American Cancer Society's tobacco policy expert.

Gregory Conley, who heads the American Vaping Association, said the type used in this study is obsolete, and all of the methods proved "pathetic" because smokers were automatically enrolled and may not have wanted to quit. "You're just thrusting the product on people," he said.

Dr. Nancy Rigotti, director of the tobacco research and treatment center at Massachusetts General Hospital who was on the expert panel, said it was a well-done study that gives "a little discouraging and surprising" results. The value of traditional methods is well established, so counseling and support might have been inadequate in this study, she said.

Others were critical of the study's methods. David Abrams, a former tobacco researcher at the National Institutes of Health and now at New York University, said researchers don't know how many in each group actually used the quit-smoking tools.

"You can't conclude that the treatments didn't work if nobody used them," said Abrams, who called e-cigarettes "the best thing that's come along in 10 years to help people quit."

A smoker took a different view.

"For me personally, it was useless," said Georges Touaichi, a 22-year-old San Diego hotel worker who tried e-cigarettes but went back to smoking after a day or two.

An FDA spokesman said the agency was pondering the results, but that this is not the type of study needed to evaluate safety and effectiveness of e-cigarettes for smoking cessation.

LUNG CANCER RATES

For the other study in the journal, researchers used U.S. cancer registries and federal health statistics to track new lung cancer cases by gender and race over various time periods. Rates historically have been higher in men but that trend reversed among whites and Hispanics born since the mid-1960s.

For example, among people ages 45 to 49 and diagnosed from 1995 to 1999, rates in women were 26 percent lower than for men. But in a more recent time period, 2010 to 2014, women had an 8 percent higher incidence rate than men, said one study leader, the American Cancer Society's Ahmedin Jemal.

Women are catching up to men in smoking rates—14 percent smoke versus 17 percent of men—but that's not enough to explain the switch, he said. Women also smoke fewer cigarettes than men.

One theory is that certain types of lung cancer are more common in women and the risk of them declines more slowly after someone quits, and women have lagged behind men in cessation rates, said Caitlin Murphy of the Simmons Cancer Center at UT Southwestern in Dallas.

"Maybe women are getting diagnosed more often through CT screening," which also would boost their rates compared to men, said Murphy, who had no role in the work.

For smokers who are 50, "if they quit now they can gain about six years of life," Jemal said. "They have this opportunity to avoid not only lung cancer but also other causes of smoking-related deaths."

Overdrive

AUTO REVIEW

Hyundai's 2018 Kona small crossover starts at $19,500, offers all-wheel drive

By EMMA JAYNE WILLIAMS
FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM

For 2018, Hyundai has added a new subcompact crossover SUV to its lineup, with lots to offer for the money and features buyers want in a versatile family vehicle, as well as Hyundai's excellent warranty.

The new Kona is available in four trims: SE, $19,500; SEL, $21,150; Limited, $24,700; and Ultimate, $27,400.

Front-wheel drive is standard, with all-wheel drive adding $1,300. AWD comes with a more-sophisticated rear suspension for a more-composed ride, and a locking center differential to enhance off-road traction.

Kona SE and SEL come with a 147-horsepower 2.0-liter four-cylinder engine, with a six-speed automatic transmission. Limited and Ultimate (the one I drove) have a 175-horsepower 1.6-liter turbocharged four-cylinder, paired with a seven-speed EcoShift dual-clutch automatic transmission.

Exterior styling includes heavy creasing on the hood, front and rear fenders, door panels and rear quarters to the taillights, and rocker panels. Gray body cladding extends from the wheel arches to include the headlight and taillight housings.

Five LED lights make up the distinct slim Daytime Running Lights at the junction of the hood and front fascia. Kona's six-sided grille is trimmed in chrome and has a slightly curved side.

My Kona Ultimate with AWD was metallic Thunder Gray with Black leather interior (seating, steering wheel, shift knob) trimmed in Lime Green and Gloss Black. Lime Green on the lighted start button, round side air vents, elongated dual center vents, and shifter surround, along with piping and top-stitching on front seat bolsters, and front and rear headrests, and top-stitching on rear outboard seats added a touch of fun. Interior materials were average, with hard plastics textured for appearance and feel.

Gloss Black front and rear door handles were a departure from silver or chrome. Gloss Black also trimmed the vents, A/C control buttons, lower steering wheel spoke, shifter knob and shifter surround.

Seven exterior colors are available, depending on the trim chosen: Chalk White, Sonic Silver, Surf Blue, Lime Twist, Pulse Red, our Thunder Gray, and Ultra Black. SEL also offers a black or dark gray roof with Sonic Silver, Surf Blue, or Pulse Red exterior paint.

The five-spoke 18-inch wheels were attractive, with silver-painted machined fronts and gray painted pockets. The spokes were canted from the hub for an interesting effect.

Interior colors depend on trim selection and exterior color. Cloth interiors in SE and SEL come in black, and black with gray, while leather interiors in Limited and Ultimate models come in black, gray, or black with Lime. Building your Kona is easy; choosing a color combination may take longer.

Entry and exit were easy thanks to large door openings and higher seat cushions. The seat cushions suited my short legs, but were a little short for a passenger with longer legs. The front seats were otherwise comfortable and easy to adjust for fit, especially in combination with the tilt/telescopic steering wheel. The perforated leather upholstery allowed adequate air circulation.

The versatile steering wheel had cruise control, phone, audio controls (volume, mode and tune), and vehicle info access and configuration.

The 60/40 split-folding rear seat was able to accommodate two average-size adults or three children or small adults. The cushioning was flatter, and slightly less comfortable, and legroom was almost seven inches less—41.5 vs. 34.6 inches. Headroom was better, almost identical to the front seats—38 vs. 37.8 inches.

Interior storage was limited, with a small shelf under the center stack, a small bin under the center armrest, small door pockets (very small bottle pockets) and small cupholders.

Each trim builds on the previous, usually adding more technology.

My Ultimate added heated side mirrors, keyless entry and ignition, leather-wrapped steering wheel and shift knob, heated front seats, Blind-Spot Monitoring with Rear Cross-Traffic Alert, and satellite radio over the base equipment on the SE. The sunroof and power-adjustable driver's seats that were options were also added. LED taillights, 18-inch wheels, and leather upholstery were added above the SEL.

Also included were automatic wipers, Hyundai Blue Link communications, a Head-up Display, an eight-inch touch screen, a navigation system, a wireless charging pad on the center console, and a 4.2-inch color Multi-Information Display (shows distance to empty, average fuel consumption, average speed, elapsed time, and instant fuel consumption).

The Hyundai Smart Sense suite of advanced safety features including Forward Collision-Avoidance Assist with Pedestrian Detection, Driver Attention Warning, Lane Keeping Assist, High Beam Assist, and an Infinity premium audio with Clari-Fi Music Restoration Technology, eight speakers including subwoofer and external amplifier were exclusive to the Ultimate.

Driver Attention Warning analyzes driving patterns and warns the driver via audible tone or visual alert on the instrument panel that it is time for a break. Kona Ultimate is the only vehicle in its class to offer wireless charging and the Driver Attention Warning system. All advanced safety features are well tuned to avoid annoying false alarms.

The eight-inch touch screen has a Rear View Monitor with parking guidance for safely backing up and parking. The screen sits on top of the dash above the center console, easy to see and reach. A/C controls located below the middle vents were simple, well labeled, and easy to use.

Blue Link, Hyundai's Connected Car Service, allows owners to start and cool or warm the vehicle with a few taps in a smartphone/smartwatch app or by saying "Alexa, start my car and set the temperature at X degrees." The vehicle will run for 10 minutes, or a timer may be set, and the doors remain locked.

Also using a smartphone/smartwatch/connected home device and a PIN, doors can be locked/unlocked. Doors lock after 30 seconds if not opened. If you should lock your keys inside, MyHundai with Blue Link Mobile App on your smart device can unlock the doors – unless the phone is also locked inside.

Operators can get a full diagnostic check from the touch screen, schedule services, and get reminders for routine maintenance.

With an app or in-car voice commands, destination search by Google will help locate a restaurant, gas station, etc., and send directions to the vehicle's navigation system. Blue Link will help locate your car – within a one-mile radius, and drop a pin on a map on your smartphone. A stolen car can be located sooner, its location provided to law enforcement, and the engine immobilized until it is recovered.

In case you need roadside assistance, Blue Link can provide an assistance staff member the exact location of your vehicle. Blue Link also provides parents with peace of mind with Geofence, curfew, and speed alerts to help keep track of young drivers.

Blue Link also provides automatic collision notification and assistance if an accident causes air bags to deploy. An SOS button allows the operator to contact 911 anytime. A text or email notification can alert a designated person/people if the panic button has been triggered.

Important information such as speed, cruise control, navigation turn-by-turn, and safety features such as blind-spot warning were projected on a pop-up transparent panel just above the instrument panel on the dash in the driver's line of sight, so eyes never needed to leave the road.

Kona is a versatile vehicle, seating up to five, with above average cargo space at 19.2 cubic feet behind the rear seat and 45.8 cubic feet with the seat folded, while being small enough to navigate tight spaces and park easily.

The ride is smooth on most roads, but a little rough on broken pavement. Road noise came through on almost every surface, although not enough to be intrusive.

The drive was easy, with only a slight delay out of the gate, getting up to speed quickly and shifting smoothly. Visibility forward and around curves is good, with the rearview camera filling in the spaces while in reverse. Braking is appropriately firm, while poised and controllable under heavy braking.

Built-in navigation has quick responses and easy-to-read graphics, although with Apple CarPlay and Android Auto, the navigation system and other infotainment features may be redundant.

Kona isn't a serious off-road vehicle, but some of us like to take a road less traveled, and Kona does that with ease and comfort. Hill Brake Control was welcome on the steeper roads I encountered.

The Hyundai Kona has a 10 years/100,00 miles powertrain warranty, 5 years/60,000 miles new vehicle warranty, 7 years perforation warranty, and 5 years 24/7 Roadside Assistance with towing, trip interruption assistance (lodging if needed), help for a flat tire, dead battery, or if you run out of gas.

With Carpeted Floor Mats adding $125 and destination charges of $980, the delivered price for my Hyundai Kona Ultimate AWD was $29,805.

Emma Jayne Williams' auto reviews appear in the Fort Worth Star-Telegram. She can be reached at emmajayne1948@gmail.com.

2018 Hyundai Kona.
TNS

Life & Style

Film explores Chinese Exclusion Act in 'DNA'

NEW YORK (AP)—Politicians seizing on immigrants as an election issue. Newspaper headlines calling for action. Talk of legislation to institute a ban.

If viewers of "The Chinese Exclusion Act" documentary end up with a sense of deja vu between the film's subject, a law from 1882 that barred Chinese people from coming to the United States, and current events, that's pretty much the point, according to its filmmakers.

"The 'A-Ha!' for anybody coming to it ... is oh, there's a history to how we have decided who can come and when they can come, who's a citizen and who's not a citizen," said documentarian Ric Burns, who made the film with Li-Shin Yu. It airs on the PBS television series "American Experience" on Tuesday.

The Chinese Exclusion Act was America's first and only immigration act that barred people from a specific country from coming to the United States. After its initial enactment for a 10-year period in 1882, it was regularly renewed and then made permanent in 1904. It was finally repealed in 1943.

Making the documentary was an eye-opening experience for Burns and Yu, who had never heard of the law and believe most of the American public isn't aware of it either, but should be.

"This is the DNA of American immigration policy," Burns said. "It is not A story about immigration, it is THE story about immigration and you're not going to understand any of the other aspects of it without understanding this thing: In 1848, you got off the boat and disappeared, in 1882 suddenly there was a racially invidious distinction being made."

In this May 15, 2018 photo, filmmakers Li-Shin Yu, left, and Ric Burns discuss their new PBS documentary "The Chinese Exclusion Act," during an interview, Tuesday May 15, 2018, in New York. AP

The documentary, which Burns and Yu initially started several years ago, starts several decades before the law's enactment on May 6, 1882. The Chinese had started coming to the West Coast, primarily California, in the middle part of the 19th Century, drawn by the possibilities of the California Gold Rush and looking to escape the unrest in China in the wake of the Opium Wars over the West forcing China to open to trade.

They became targets of prejudice by white miners and other Californians as gold became more difficult to come by, as well as politicians appealing to nativist sentiments and those concerned immigrants were depressing wages. But they were also vital labor in the building of the Western half of the transcontinental railroad, forced to work for lower pay and in worse conditions that white workers.

The documentary shows how, even though estimates put the Chinese population at about 100,000 or so when the overall country's population was about 50 million, there was a rising sentiment that the Chinese were a problem. That lead to local laws around the West Coast limiting their livelihoods as well as acts like the federal 1875 Page Act, which instituted regulations on women attempting to come to the United States from China that were onerous enough that they were almost completely excluded. There were also acts of violence, like the October 1871 massacre in Los Angeles, when a mob went to Chinatown and 18 Chinese immigrants were killed, many of them lynched.

When the exclusion act was passed, it prohibited most Chinese workers from coming, and preventing Chinese already here from ever becoming naturalized citizens.

But the anti-Chinese sentiment already stoked in the U.S. didn't abate with the law, and the documentary shows how acts of violence continued to be perpetrated against Chinese communities, as in the Snake River massacre in 1887, where almost three dozen Chinese miners were killed in Oregon.

The documentary also shows how Chinese immigrants and the next generation of Chinese Americans born in the United States fought back, filing thousands and thousands of lawsuits in the courts to push back against the limitations of the laws they were living under.

Some of the cases established principles that Americans now take for granted and assume have been part of the country since its founding, Burns said. He pointed to the case of Wong Kim Ark, born in America to Chinese immigrant parents. He was returning to the U.S. after a visit to China and was barred from re-entry. His case went to the U.S. Supreme Court, and the judges decided that he was a citizen because of being born here, in accordance with the citizenship clause of the 14th Amendment, thus clarifying the precedent for birthright citizenship, regardless of whether a person's parents were citizens.

'Solo' sputters in takeoff with $83.3M at box office

NEW YORK (AP)—In the largest disturbance yet in Disney's otherwise lucrative reign over "Star Wars," the Han Solo spinoff "Solo: A Star Wars Story" opened well below expectations with a franchise-low $83.3 million in ticket sales over the three-day weekend in North American theaters.

Disney estimated Sunday that "Solo" will gross $101 million over the four-day Memorial Day weekend, a figure below even the opening weekends of the much-derided "Star Wars" prequels. Last week, forecasts ran as high as $150 million for the four-day haul of "Solo."

Overseas ticket sales were even worse. "Solo," starring Alden Ehrenreich in the role made iconic by Harrison Ford, grossed $65 million internationally in its opening weekend, including a paltry $10.1 million in China.

"Of course we would have hoped for this to be a bit bigger," said Dave Hollis, Disney's distribution chief. "We're encouraged by the response that people have had to the film. It got a good CinemaScore (A-minus). The exits are very encouraging."

"Solo" came in with a Millennium Falcon's worth of baggage following the mid-production firing of directors Phil Lord and Christopher Miller, who were replaced by Ron Howard. With the rejiggered production, the budget soared well past $250 million.

But the cause of the spinoff's disappointing performance may have had as much to do with "Star Wars" fatigue ("The Last Jedi" exited theaters just last month) and the stiffer competition of a summer holiday weekend. While no major releases dared to open against "Solo," Fox's "Deadpool 2" moved its release date up a week ahead of "Solo."

1. "**Solo: A Star Wars Story**," $83.3 million *($65 million international).*
2. "**Deadpool 2**," $42.7 million *($57 million international).*
3. "**Avengers: Infinity War**," $16.5 million *($32.5 million international).*
4. "**Book Club**," $9.5 million.
5. "**Life of the Party**," $5.1 million.
6. "**Breaking In**," $4.1 million.
7. "**Show Dogs**," $3.1 million.
8. "**Overboard**," $3 million *($2.3 million international).*
9. "**A Quiet Place**," $2.2 million *($4.7 million international).*
10. "**RBG**," $1.2 million.

The gambit may have hurt both releases. After debuting with $125 million last weekend, the R-rated Ryan Reynolds sequel dropped 66 percent to second place with $42.7 million and an estimated $53.5 million four-day haul.

"Solo" notched the biggest Memorial Day weekend opening in several years, but it also came on the heels of a pair of a summer-sized blockbusters—"Deadpool 2" and Disney's own "Avengers Infinity War"—making for an unusually crowded May. "Infinity War" added $16.5 million in its fifth weekend to bring its domestic total to $621.7 million and its global sales to $1.9 billion—both among the highest of all-time.

"It is a business that is built on momentum but also one where people probably are only able to get to theaters a certain number of weeks in a row," said Hollis.

But there were also questions beyond the effect the calendar had on "Solo." While reviews were generally positive (71 percent "fresh" on Rotten Tomatoes), there was little about "Solo" that made the movie a must-see event.

Fans were skeptical of Ehrenreich and uncertain about the dismissal of Lord and Miller (the popular filmmaking duo behind "21 Jump Street" and "The Lego Movie"). Unlike any "Star Wars" release before, "Solo" was deemed—gasp—skippable.

As it arrived in theaters, Disney might have been wishing it had instead made a Lando Calrissian spinoff with the red-hot Donald Glover, the star of TV's "Atlanta." In the days ahead of release, Lucasfilm President Kathleen Kennedy said a Lando movie is a possibility.

While the original "Star Wars" films helped define the summer moviegoing experience, Disney released their previous three "Star Wars" films in December. What most hurt "Solo" was the "fatigue factor" of a May "Star Wars" film following a December one, said Paul Dergarabedian, senior media analyst for comScore.

"It's the compressed timeframe between the two 'Star Wars' films and the highly competitive nature of this marketplace. It is summer, after all," said Dergarabedian. "The good news is that the next film isn't until December 2019. That's plenty of breathing space. I think part of the allure of the 'Star Wars' brand in the past has been the long wait."

That time might also be valuable for Lucasfilm and Disney to find a way to counter the diminishing returns of its multi-billion-dollar franchise. To help propel "Solo" internationally, Disney brought the film to Cannes Film Festival, flooding the French film festival's red carpet with Storm Troopers.

Under scrutiny, Weinstein prosecutor has a case to prove

NEW YORK (AP)—At least in the court of public opinion, the prosecutor leading a rape case against Harvey Weinstein may have more to prove than the charges alone.

But if Manhattan Attorney Cyrus Vance Jr. is out to answer critics of his past decisions not to pursue sex cases against Weinstein and another powerful man, there was little sign of it as the movie mogul faced a judge Friday.

Steering clear of the cameras that flocked to the courthouse, Vance issued a circumspect statement: "Today's charges reflect significant progress in this active, ongoing investigation."

In this March 1, 2018, file photo, New York District Attorney Cyrus Vance arrives to the start of a trial in New York. AP

It was typical of the anything-but-flamboyant head of a storied prosecutors' office with a long history of cases involving the famous and infamous. Subdued and guarded in public, Vance told The Associated Press in 2011: "I don't think I've ever strayed off-message."

But if going after Weinstein would put any prosecutor under a microscope, Vance is already there.

A state investigation has been examining how the Democratic DA handled a groping allegation against Weinstein three years ago. Women's-rights activists have protested outside Vance's office.

And the DA has been shadowed by another high-profile sex case that he ultimately dropped—a 2011 attempted rape prosecution of former International Monetary Fund director Dominique Strauss-Kahn, one of whose lawyers is representing Weinstein.

A former defense lawyer and litigator—and the son of Carter-era Secretary of State Cyrus Vance—the DA won the job in his first run for public office in 2009. Longtime predecessor Robert Morgenthau retired.

Early on, he highlighted such initiatives as a new cybercrime unit and efforts to unclog overloaded misdemeanor courts.

Then a hotel maid accused Strauss-Kahn—then a potential French presidential candidate—of trying to rape her in May 2011. He said the encounter was consensual.

Vance's office initially called the proof against Strauss-Kahn substantial and growing.

Just three months later, prosecutors dropped the case, saying they had developed doubts about the credibility of Strauss-Kahn's accuser.

Women's rights groups urged Vance to press on with the prosecution, and the accuser's lawyer said the DA denied her justice. She later reached a civil settlement with Strauss-Kahn.

Vance said prosecutors had been forthright about what they found and followed it to a responsible, correct decision.

In the years since, Vance, 63, has positioned himself as a national criminal justice innovator. Thanks to massive penalties paid by banks accused of violating U.S. sanctions, he's doled out millions of dollars to test rape-evidence kits around the country for DNA and joined with London's police commissioner in an effort to prevent cyberattacks, among other, more local investments.

He has testified in Congress about cellphone encryption and financial transparency. The New York Times Magazine dubbed him "the data D.A." in a 2014 piece spotlighting how his office drills down on crime patterns.

And he put his stamp on one of the nation's most haunting missing-child cases, the 1979 disappearance of 6-year-old Etan Patz. After Vance made a campaign pledge to re-examine the case, a 2012 tip led to a new suspect and ultimately a conviction.

As Vance campaigned last fall for a third term, it emerged that he'd closed a two-year-long fraud investigation against President Donald Trump's children Ivanka and Donald Jr. without charges in 2012—and accepted a $32,000 campaign donation from their lawyer five months later.

And a dam of long-pent-up sexual misconduct allegations against Weinstein broke, with ultimately dozens of women accusing him of sexual harassment or assault.

The outpouring threw new scrutiny on Vance's decision not to charge Weinstein in 2015, when an Italian model accused him of groping her and recorded him apologizing for his conduct. One of Weinstein's then-attorneys, a former Vance law partner, had given him over $26,000, the bulk of it before representing the producer.

Weinstein denies ever engaging in non-consensual sex.

Vance returned the gift from the Trumps' lawyer and announced he would no longer accept campaign contributions from attorneys with business before his office. But he defended his decisions not to prosecute as based on evidence, not influence.

"I, as D.A., have to be guided by the evidence and the element of the crime and by experts in the office," he told reporters in October. "And if I stop being guided by any of those things and start being guided by outside influences, whether it's money or it's public opinion, then I'm not doing my job."

Mount Rushmore to improve avenue of flags in $14M renovation

KEYSTONE, S.D. (AP)—The Mount Rushmore National Memorial is getting a $14 million upgrade, though the carved heads of U.S. presidents won't be touched.

Maureen McGee-Ballinger is chief of interpretation and education at the popular landmark. She told the Rapid City Journal that the construction is mostly overdue maintenance work.

"I've been here six-and-a-half years, and we've asked for it every year," she said.

The largest change funded by the $14 million congressional appropriation will be a streamlined avenue of flags. The flags will be placed onto concrete structures along the walkway's sides so people in wheelchairs can more easily access plaques memorializing states, McGee-Ballinger said.

"Everyone will be able to see their states," she said. "People are very passionate about those flags."

Other upgrades in the 20-month project include removing part of the rock pergola to better reveal the terrace and installing lanterns to reduce light pollution.

In this Tuesday, May 22, 2018 photo, Mount Rushmore National Monument is seen behind the Avenue of Flags in S.D. AP

Granite pavers damaged by flooding along the terrace will be replaced with decorative concrete. Americans With Disabilities Act-accessible ramps will also be improved near the parking lots.

The grand terrace just beneath the stone busts will close during the renovations, but the avenue of flags, bookstore, visitor's center and cafeteria will remain open.

The nonprofit Mount Rushmore Society is raising money in addition to the congressional funding in order to swap out dated video for the amphitheater and visitor center.

Vindication, triumph, also fear: Weinstein accusers react

NEW YORK (AP)—Watching the stunning images of Harvey Weinstein walking into a courthouse Friday in handcuffs, a detective on each arm, Louisette Geiss still felt a shiver of fear in reaction to the man who, she says, once cornered her and tried to physically force her to watch him masturbate.

Yes, Weinstein had certainly fallen hard and fast. And yet, Geiss said, even in handcuffs, he still somehow looked powerful and defiant—not humbled, and certainly not remorseful.

"He's not taking responsibility for a single one of these victims," she said in an interview. "He looks like he's just going through the machinery to get to the next step. I'm still scared, even talking to you about Harvey."

To be sure, there was plenty of satisfaction and relief among the scores of Weinstein accusers as the disgraced mogul, who has consistently denied allegations of nonconsensual sex, was arraigned sex charges involving two women, including one rape count. But emotions were mixed. Actress Rose McGowan tweeted: "We got you, Harvey Weinstein." But she also expressed uncertainty about how the case would play out in what she called an "elusive" justice system.

And others, like Geiss, who is a lead plaintiff in a class action lawsuit against Weinstein, cautioned there was a long way to go before ultimate vindication. "This is a win, but not THE win," she said. "The win would be him behind bars, not living on an estate somewhere."

Another accuser, actress Caitlin Dulany, felt more optimistic. "Today was a great day for all of us," she said, referring to what she called a sisterhood of accusers. "The fact that our voices have made a difference means so much to me and to all of us who spoke out in the MeToo movement."

Dulany, who has alleged a 1996 encounter with Weinstein in which he picked her up at her apartment before a dinner and stripped naked, before she managed to kick him out, said the day had meaning not only to those who have publicly accused Weinstein, but to other victims who haven't felt able to come forward.

Sting receives honorary degree, sings at Brown University

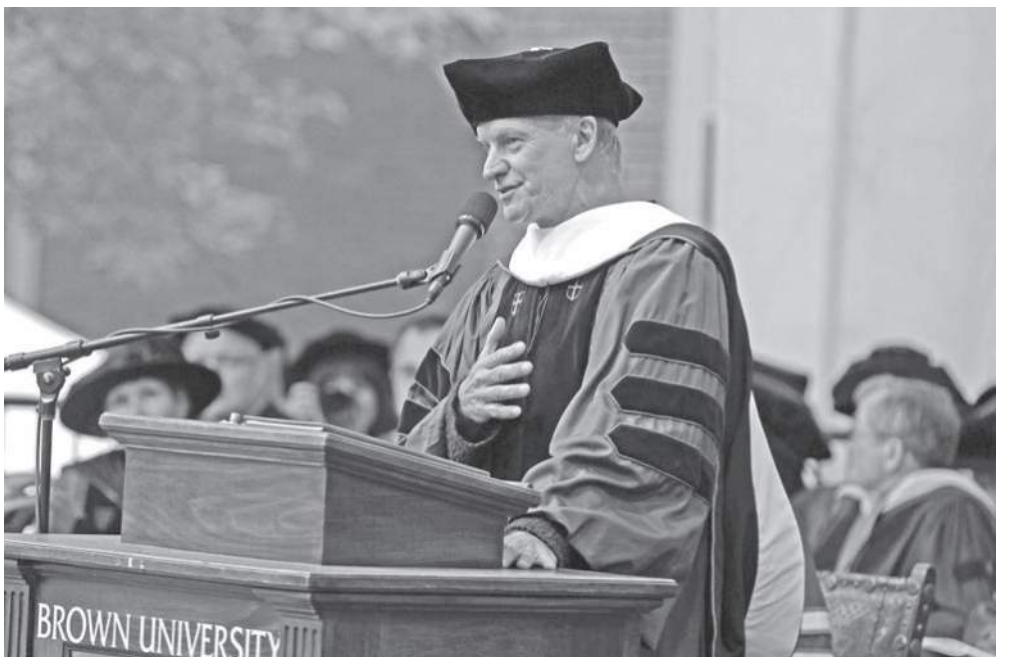
PROVIDENCE, R.I. (AP)—English musician Sting sang "My One and Only Love" at Brown University after he and his wife Trudie Styler accepted honorary degrees.

Brown presented them with the degrees Sunday at its 250th commencement. Nobel Prize-winning physicist J. Michael Kosterlitz was among the other honorees.

Sting in 1977 formed the pioneering British rock band The Police with Stewart Copeland and Andy Summers. He and Styler co-founded an environmental organization, the Rainforest Fund, to protect the world's rainforests.

The university conferred a total of 2,795 degrees to undergraduate, graduate, medical and honorary students.

Before commencement, students walked from the Brown campus to the First Baptist Church in America. Located in Providence, it's the oldest Baptist church congregation in the U.S.



AP

English musician Sting sings a song during the Brown University Commencement following accepting a Doctor of Humane Letters degree with his wife Trudie Styler Sunday, May 27, 2018 in Providence, R.I.

Argentines use murals to search for missing children

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP)—Daiana Garnica's sparkling eyes catch the attention of many passers-by in Argentina's capital, where her face is painted on a wall in a plea for help to find the teenager who disappeared one year ago.

Garnica's image is one of five paintings of missing young people put on walls across Buenos Aires in a bid to raise awareness about their disappearances.

The initiative, which is led by the private group Missing Children Argentina under the #ParedesQueBuscan, or #WallsThatSearch, slogan, is supported by a growing number of urban artists who hope their work helps the search become more visible.

"I wanted to communicate the gaze, which is the strongest, so that the image has an impact," artist Sebastian Richeri told The Associated Press. "So you stop and stare at it, instead of looking at it like just another face."

A bright orange neon light surrounds the teenager's smiling face, which is painted in black and white and tones of grey that contrast with a colorful background resembling a galaxy. Garnica's portrait is on the exterior wall of a bus terminal in the Villa Crespo neighborhood, where urban art is often displayed in murals.

Richeri, who signs his work "Chispart," a nickname that combines "spark" in Spanish and "art," based the painting on one of the photographs the family has used in the search for Garnica, who went missing at age 17.

She was last seen on May 6, 2017, when she went out shopping with Dario Suarez, a neighbor in her small community in the northern Argentine province of Tucuman. Suarez is the only person arrested in the case so far. He is accused of playing a role in her disappearance. Authorities have offered a reward of about $6,000 for information leading to Garnica's whereabouts.

"Tucuman doesn't have enough means to look for missing people," Daiana's sister, Sonia Garnica, told the AP. "Nothing that the (authorities) have said has been satisfactory."

She suspects that her sister, a cheerful teenager who was close to her family, was delivered to a prostitution ring. But she remains hopeful.

"I think this (mural project) that spreads her image is going to help speak to the public conscience, and reinforce the fact that there's a family waiting for her," she said. "If they think like a father, a mother, a family member, it will move them to speak out."

The national registry of missing minors says 1,154 are still missing out of the 2,571 cases reported last year nationwide. Most are between the ages of 13 and 17, and girls predominate among the missing.

Iglesias loves his fans, but misses family 'like crazy'

TEL AVIV, Israel (AP)—Pop star Enrique Iglesias misses his newborn twins "like crazy." But he says performing for his fans is the next best thing to being home.

While the Spanish singer has traditionally kept his personal life private, he and his wife, former tennis player Anna Kournikova, took to social media last week to share some rare photos and videos of themselves and their children. He said he wanted to open up to his fans because they have given him so much.

"I don't mind sharing part of my life with them," he told The Associated Press. "I always have, in a way, through my music."

AP

Spanish singer Enrique Iglesias performs on stage in Tel Aviv, Israel, Sunday, May 27, 2018.

Iglesias performed to nearly 50,000 fans in Tel Aviv Sunday night. The crowd cheered when Iglesias took to the stage, starting with his song "I'm a Freak," accompanied by a show of lasers. Devoted fans wore T-shirts proclaiming their love for the 43-year-old pop star, and held signs declaring him the "sexiest father alive."

"I miss my family like crazy," said Iglesias. "But I love doing what I do, which is being on stage and just being surrounded by my fans. Those are the two things I love most in my life."

It was Iglesias' fourth performance in Israel. Artists, including Iglesias, often come under pressure from a grassroots pro-Palestinian boycott movement not to perform in Israel. But Iglesias said he never had second thoughts about coming to the country.

"I've sang in so many countries around the world during conflicts, my music is not about politics," he said. "If my fans ask me to go to a place and there is demand, I will be there no matter what."

Family urges bride to choose flaky cousin as maid of honor

DEAR ABBY: I have an extremely difficult decision to make. I recently got engaged to the love of my life. However, with this comes the decision of who should be my maid of honor.

Until a couple of years ago, the choice was obvious—my cousin. Over the past couple of years, though, we've become distant. She's an extremely flaky person and can't be counted on for much. Now, I also have a best friend who is always there when I need her, but we've been friends for only a couple of years.

My immediate family says I should still ask my cousin to be my maid of honor because her feelings will be hurt if I don't. Abby, I don't want to give such a special title to someone I can no longer depend on. She has hurt my feelings countless times by not being there. She shouldn't get the honor just because I've known her forever. Please help.

STUCK AT A CROSSROADS

DEAR STUCK: Talk to your cousin and also your best friend. When you do, remind your cousin there are serious responsibilities that go along with being a maid of honor and ask if they would create a problem for her. Tell her that if it's too much for her, she could be a bridesmaid. If she says she wants to be maid of honor, give her the chance. However, if she flakes EVEN ONCE, ask your best friend to step in.

DEAR ABBY: Last year I came out as a gay man. I'm 35, and it was a very difficult decision.

I haven't been in a relationship with a man before and have dated only women up until now. I have been on a few dates, and I feel like I fall too fast and easy for a guy. I'm struggling to fit into the gay community and understand what is acceptable and what is not.

I recently met someone I really like, but I'm not sure if he feels the same way. I have never felt this way about anyone before, and I am scared I'll mess it up. I don't want to be alone and I'm afraid that's what is going to happen to me.

I am not sure how to interact with other gay guys. It took me so long to come out, I don't want it to take forever to find someone. How do I get over this fear of being alone and be comfortable around guys?

FEELING LOST IN MASSACHUSETTS

DEAR FEELING LOST: Make a conscious decision to relax and just be yourself because it isn't necessary to be anyone but who you are. In time, you will realize there are as many kinds of relationships in the gay community as there are in the straight community. Some men are looking for casual hookups while others want the same kind of solid, lasting relationship you do.

Because you are confused about "how to fit into the gay community," you might find guidance if you contact the nearest gay and lesbian center and join one of their talk groups. One that's comprised of individuals who are "newly out" would be perfect for you.

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

DEAR ABBY: I feel much more comfortable eating gluten-free. But it creates problems when I'm invited to the homes of friends. What's the best way to deal with my dietary restrictions when invited to these affairs?

RESTRICTED EATER

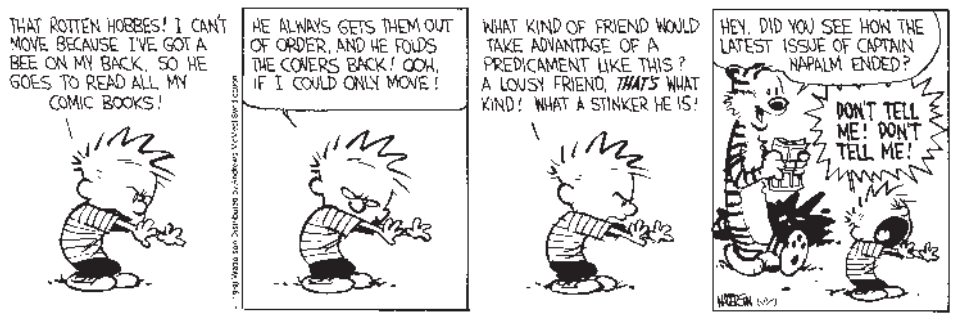
DEAR RESTRICTED: If catering to your dietary restrictions is a problem for your host, deal with it by asking if he or she will be serving salad and bring something with you that you can eat with it.

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $14 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

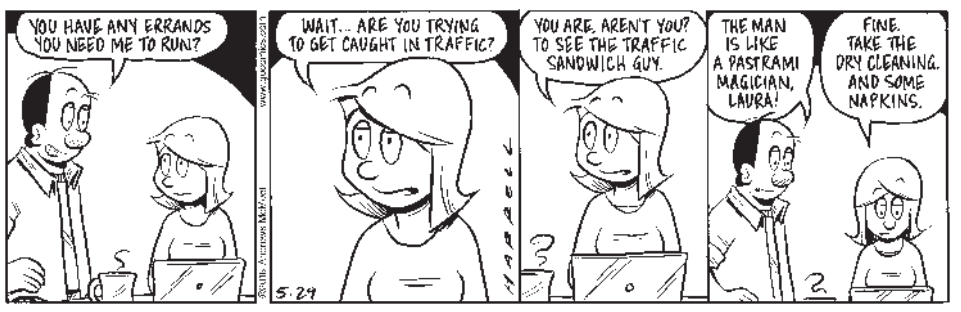

THAT ROTTEN HOBBES! I CAN'T MOVE BECAUSE I'VE GOT A BEE ON MY BACK, SO HE GOES TO READ ALL MY COMIC BOOKS!
HE ALWAYS GETS THEM OUT OF ORDER, AND HE FOLDS THE COVERS BACK! OOH, IF I COULD ONLY MOVE!
WHAT KIND OF FRIEND WOULD TAKE ADVANTAGE OF A PREDICAMENT LIKE THIS? A LOUSY FRIEND, THAT'S WHAT KIND! WHAT A STINKER HE IS!
HEY, DID YOU SEE HOW THE LATEST ISSUE OF CAPTAIN NAPALM ENDED?
DON'T TELL ME! DON'T TELL ME!

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

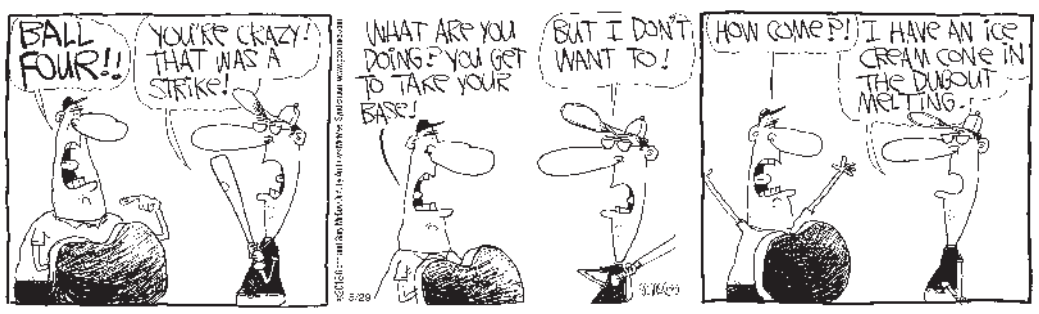
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


YOU HAVE ANY ERRANDS YOU NEED ME TO RUN?
WAIT... ARE YOU TRYING TO GET CAUGHT IN TRAFFIC?
YOU ARE. AREN'T YOU? TO SEE THE TRAFFIC SANDWICH GUY.
THE MAN IS LIKE A PASTRAMI MAGICIAN, LAURA!
FINE. TAKE THE DRY CLEANING. AND SOME NAPKINS.
5-29

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy


BALL FOUR!!
YOU'RE CRAZY! THAT WAS A STRIKE!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING? YOU GET TO TAKE YOUR BASE!
BUT I DON'T WANT TO!
HOW COME?!
I HAVE AN ICE CREAM CONE IN THE DUGOUT MELTING!

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

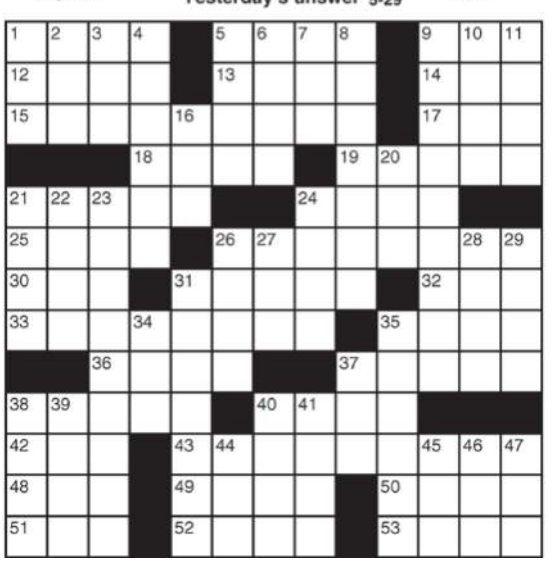
ACROSS
1 Ride the waves
5 Comestibles
9 Rm. coolers
12 La Scala solo
13 Get ready, briefly
14 Debtor's letters
15 Like Mozart's music
17 GPS suggestion
18 Twitches
19 Top
21 Scooter's kin
24 Guesser's words
25 Actor Rickman
26 Of operations
30 Baseball's Hodges
31 Gift recipient
32 Crucial
33 Hostile
35 Swiss capital
36 Foundered
37 Japanese bedroll
38 Trolley sound
40 Online auction site
42 Secreted
43 Relating to plants
48 Soul, to Sartre
49 Mystique
50 "The Lion King" lion
51 Uno + uno
52 Cravats
53 Got bigger

DOWN
1 Pouch
2 Online address
3 Estuary
4 Secure, as a seatbelt
5 Grand tale
6 Curved lines
7 Chai, e.g.
8 Ostentatious expenditure
9 Localized downdraft
10 Doves' home
11 Litigant
16 Comic Caesar
20 Chi follower
21 Creche trio
22 Actress Lena
23 Hudson River cliffs
24 Pitcher Hershiser
26 Punch
27 Italian article
28 Aviation prefix
29 Singer Loretta
31 Nitwit
34 Fortify
35 Shopper's activity
37 Summer cooler
38 Sudan neighbor
39 Prom rental
40 French 101 verb
41 Sheepish remarks
44 Parisian "yes"
45 Automobile
46 Hearty brew
47 Legislation

Solution time: 22 mins.

M	O	U	E	■	C	A	L	■	W	H	A	M
T	A	N	D	O	O	R	I	■	H	O	B	O
G	R	I	D	L	O	C	K	■	O	S	L	O
■	■	I	D	S	■	E	M	O	T	E	S	■
S	P	R	E	E	■	T	W	A	S	■	■	■
A	R	E	S	■	G	R	I	S	H	A	M	■
T	I	A	■	C	R	A	S	H	■	T	O	M
■	G	R	I	M	A	C	E	■	P	O	N	E
■	■	D	O	I	T	■	O	R	M	A	N	■
J	O	H	A	N	N	■	N	A	E	■	■	■
U	H	U	H	■	G	R	I	F	F	I	N	S
M	I	R	O	■	E	A	T	S	A	L	O	T
P	O	T	S	■	R	Y	E	■	B	E	V	Y

Yesterday's answer 5-29



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Riley Keough, 29; Melanie Brown, 43; Rupert Everett, 59; Annette Bening, 60.

Happy Birthday: Make your mark. Take note of what others are doing and strive to push the envelope until you reach your goal. This is a year to put in the time and energy in order to reap the rewards. What you do now will determine the way you live and the success you achieve moving forward. Your numbers are 5, 16, 20, 28, 31, 36, 45.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Stick close to the people you know inside out. Let your past experience guide you from making the same mistake twice. Take a hands-on approach to money, health and legal matters. Don't let anyone limit what you can do. ✪✪✪✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Refuse to let someone's enthusiasm cause you to react without thinking matters through. Change is only good if it benefits you in the end. Overspending or taking on too much in any capacity will cause undue stress. ✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Run a tight ship. Don't offer personal information to outsiders. Move about and control what unfolds by doing the work on your own. Don't speak from the heart; use intelligence and first-hand information to get good results. ✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Look inward and make plans to present a positive image that will encourage others to open up to you. Making new friends and collaborating with people who have something to offer will help you get ahead. Romance is on the rise. ✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Sign up to volunteer or take part in a demonstration. Speaking out on behalf of those who can't will bring you great satisfaction and encourage you to get more involved in what's going on in your community. Younger people will energize you. ✪✪✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Talk to an expert. You'll find an interesting way to express what you'd like to see happen. Changes at home will turn out the way you hoped but might not please everyone you live with. Seek approval before you start make alterations. ✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Partnerships can be to your advantage, but only if you are willing to pull your weight. If you let someone else do too much, you will end up having a falling-out. Share what you are willing to contribute. ✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Personal improvements are in your best interest. Physical changes can be made that will enhance the way you look or allow you to use your creative attributes to get one of your pursuits up and running. Romance is featured. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Don't act on assumptions when dealing with a friend, relative or partner. Being evasive or not questioning someone who is will lead to loss or disappointment. Good results will come from being truthful and doing your best. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

COPYRIGHT 2007 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Someone from your past will mislead you, leaving you in a vulnerable position. Leave them well enough alone and focus on moving forward. Don't entertain letting someone who has disrupted your life in the past do so again. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Choose a simple lifestyle. Taking on too much or letting someone talk you into something you cannot afford or shouldn't do will lead to regret. Put your energy into personal improvements that require you to do the work, not pay for it. ✪✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Someone will use emotional tactics to take advantage of you. Don't display your assets, possessions or personal information. Be prepared to say no to anyone asking too many questions. Focus on what's in your best interest. ✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are sensitive, upbeat and assertive. You are talkative and appealing.

(To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn.)

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

		2					1	
		9		3		2		6
1	8				6	5	7	
			7			3		
	6						9	
		3			2			
	7	1	9				4	5
3		8		1		6		
	9					1		

Difficulty Level ★★ 5/29

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

1	4	7	6	3	5	9	8	2
3	2	8	1	9	4	7	5	6
6	5	9	7	8	2	1	3	4
5	1	6	3	7	9	4	2	8
7	8	4	2	1	6	3	9	5
9	3	2	5	4	8	6	1	7
2	7	5	9	6	3	8	4	1
4	6	3	8	5	1	2	7	9
8	9	1	4	2	7	5	6	3

Difficulty Level ★ 5/28

©2012 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

STEM CELL TRANSPLANTS **Solution: 9 letters**

E	G	N	I	R	Y	S	U	R	V	I	V	O	R	H
R	F	S	T	S	I	G	O	L	O	T	A	M	E	H
E	E	R	R	A	D	I	A	T	I	O	N	M	C	R
G	R	Y	E	O	X	Y	G	E	N	U	A	I	O	E
I	E	U	A	E	N	S	T	S	E	T	T	T	V	S
S	S	E	T	R	Z	O	M	B	O	O	I	R	E	C
T	E	N	M	U	P	E	D	P	I	N	T	O	R	U
R	A	O	E	E	F	I	O	B	O	H	B	T	Y	E
Y	R	B	N	M	L	I	I	M	E	D	I	C	A	L
L	C	E	T	I	E	T	A	R	R	C	O	O	T	W
I	Ⓗ	R	I	T	N	T	A	O	G	A	P	D	S	O
M	Ⓞ	U	I	A	C	P	C	T	I	S	S	U	E	R
A	Ⓟ	C	U	H	Y	S	O	L	V	E	Y	F	R	R
F	Ⓔ	T	N	E	I	P	I	C	E	R	I	S	K	A
C	O	L	L	E	C	T	I	N	G	L	C	A	L	M

© 2012 Andrews McMeel Syndication www.wonderword.com 5/29

Antibiotic, Auto, Biopsy, Bone, Case, Collecting, Cord, Cure, Doctor, Donors, Family, Freeze, Future, Give, Hematologist, Hematopoietic, Hope, Life, Marrow, Match, Medical, Monitor, Oxygen, Prayer, Radiation, Recipient, Recovery, Registry, Rescue, Research, Rest, Risk, Solve, Survivor, Syringe, Tests, Therapy, Time, Tissue, Treatment

Yesterday's Answer: Pitchers

To purchase **THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volumes 37 through 51,** order online at www.WonderWordBooks.com.

CLASSIFIED ADS

EMPLOYMENT

(2) Building and Ground Maintenance repairer. Extensive experience and references required. Contact Tapochau estates at 483-9351.

DRIVE SOBER OR GET PULLED OVER

TAGA SPORTS
APRIL - JUNE 2018 EDITION
The CNMI's premier sports magazine is now available on
issuu.com/tagasports

MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

MVA IS HIRING!!!!!!!!

Opening Date: 05/09/18 **Closing Date: 05/30/18**
JVA#18-003: **Procurement Officer**
Location: Marianas Visitors Authority, Saipan

Opening Date: 05/14/18 **Closing Date: 05/30/18**
JVA#18-001: **Community Projects Coordinator I**
Location: Marianas Visitors Authority, Saipan

JVA#18-002: **Media Marketing Specialist I**
Location: **Marianas Visitors Authority, Saipan**

Interested persons may contact the Marianas Visitors Authority Office at (670) 664-3200/01 or visit www.mymarianas.com for more details.

PLACE YOUR ADVERT HERE!

For opportunities contact us at
235-6397

WHATZIT Solution: A lot to answer for

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as $30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$30
• 5-Liner	$24	$45

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

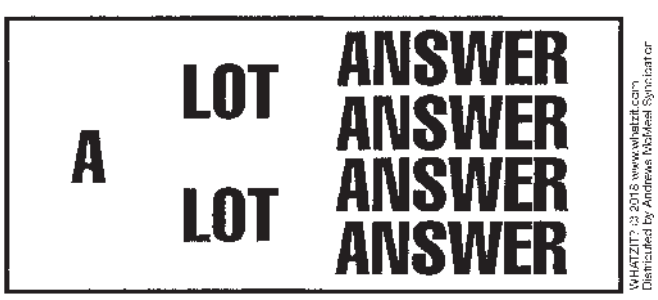
Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WHATZIT?™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.



www.facebook.com/dingbatsgames

Find today's solution in classified section

Tanaka strikes out eight, pitches Yanks past Angels

NEW YORK (AP)—Masahiro Tanaka pitched six sharp innings and struck out Japanese countryman Shohei Ohtani twice as the New York Yankees defeated the Los Angeles Angels 3-1 Sunday.

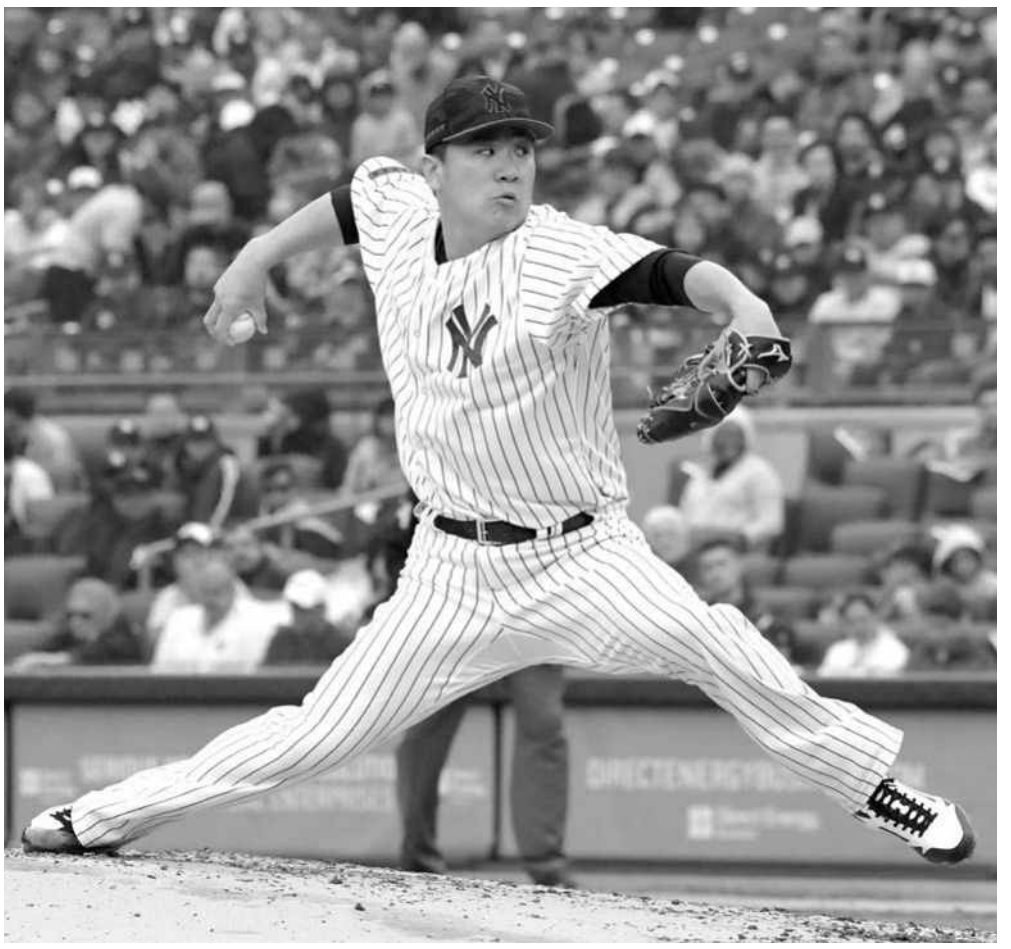
Brett Gardner had three hits for New York, which won five of six against the Angels this season.

Although Ohtani was pushed back from Sunday's scheduled start due to what the Angels called "workload management," Tanaka (6-2) held up his end up of the highly anticipated pitchers' duel that never materialized. Tanaka struck out eight and allowed just Andrelton Simmons' sixth-inning home run in his longest outing in nearly a month.

Featuring his splitter, Tanaka struck out eight and allowed just Andrelton Simmons' sixth-inning home run in his longest outing in nearly a month. One day after he homered and had three doubles in the first five-hit game of his career, Mike Trout went 0 for 4.

Pitching on his 30th birthday, Angels right-hander Garrett Richards (4-4) allowed three runs over 2 1/3 innings and matched a season high with five walks.

Aroldis Chapman walked Ohtani to begin the ninth, but struck out a pair to earn his 10th save in 11 chances.



AP
New York Yankees starting pitcher Masahiro Tanaka delivers the ball to the Los Angeles Angels during the second inning of a baseball game Sunday, May 27, 2018, at Yankee Stadium in New York.

Braves 7, Red Sox 1

In Boston, prized rookie Ronald Acuna Jr. took a high-flying tumble while beating out an infield hit, exiting Atlanta's win with knee and lower back pain.

Acuna waved his arms "safe" as he crossed first base before his left foot gave out in the seventh inning, and he went sprawling. He walked off the field slowly, passing on a wheel chair that was rolled out for him.

Indians, 10, Astros 9, 14 innings

In Cleveland, rookie Greg Allen homered on Brad Peacock's first pitch in the 14th inning, lifting Cleveland to a wild win.

Allen's first homer of the season landed in the seats in right and triggered a celebration for the Indians.

Nationals 5, Marlins 2

In Miami, Bryce Harper hit his NL-leading 16th homer, and Washington completed a three-game sweep by beating Miami for the 11th time in a row.

The Nationals matched the longest winning streak in franchise history against one team. It's the Marlins' longest losing streak against an opponent since 1999.

Mariners 3, Twins 1

In Seattle, Ryon Healy doubled home two runs in the eighth inning and Alex Colome earned a save in his first outing for the Mariners, who swept the three-game series and have won eight of their last nine.

Mike Leake (5-3) allowed one run in eight innings for the win. He outpitched Jose Berrios (5-5), who gave up two runs in 7 1/3 innings.

Cardinals 6, Pirates 4

In Pittsburgh, Harrison Bader's pinch-hit bloop single off Pittsburgh closer Felipe Vazquez keyed a late rally for St. Louis.

The Cardinals won for just the fourth time in 19 games when trailing after seven innings by pouncing on Pittsburgh's bullpen.

Brewers 8, Mets 7

In Milwaukee, Domingo Santana's two-run double highlighted a four-run seventh inning for surging Milwaukee.

Jesus Aguilar added a three-run homer and four RBI for the NL Central leaders. The Brewers won their fifth straight series by taking three of four games from the struggling Mets.

Dodgers 6, Padres 1

In Los Angeles, rookie Walker Buehler tied a career high with eight strikeouts, Max Muncy and Cody Bellinger homered, and the Dodgers earned their eighth victory in 10 games.

Buehler (3-1) allowed one run in seven innings. Muncy hit a towering two-run homer in the eighth off Tyler Webb, and Bellinger tacked on a two-run drive with two out.

Blue Jays 5, Phillies 3

In Philadelphia, Devon Travis and Dwight Smith Jr. each hit a two-run double for Toronto, and J.A. Happ pitched neatly into the seventh inning.

Curtis Granderson added a solo homer to help the Blue Jays take two of three in the interleague series.

Happ (7-3) allowed three runs—two earned—and six hits, striking out eight in 6 2/3 innings against his former team.

Rays 8, Orioles 3

In St. Petersburg, relievers Vidal Nuno and Austin Pruitt combined to throw 8 2/3 scoreless innings, leading Tampa Bay to the win.

Nuno (1-0) and Pruitt followed Sergio Romo, who was charged with three runs in one-third of an inning as the Rays went with an unconventional pitching lineup for the third consecutive day.

Athletics 2, Diamondbacks 1

In Oakland, Matt Chapman hit a tiebreaking RBI single off Zack Greinke with two out in the sixth inning, lifting the Athletics to the win.

Jonathan Lucroy homered for the first time this season and rookie Frankie Montas (1-0) pitched three-hit ball over six innings in his first start with Oakland.

The A's went ahead to stay by taking advantage of some control problems for Greinke (3-4) after he struck out the first two batters in the sixth. Matt Olson and Chad Pinder walked before Chapman sent a sharp liner into left field.

Royals 5, Rangers 3

In Arlington, Jason Hammel struck out 10, Drew Butera and Salvador Perez homered, and Kansas City held on for the win.

Hammel (2-5) pitched 5 1/3 shutout innings. He gave up four hits, including three doubles, and two walks.

Perez and Butera each homered off Cole Hamels (3-5), who allowed five runs in 6 1/3 innings with a season-low two strikeouts. Hamels didn't give up more than two earned runs in any of his five previous starts.

Rockies 8, Reds 2

In Denver, Carlos Gonzalez had a season-high four hits for Colorado, including a third-deck homer off Matt Harvey.

It was Gonzalez's first four-hit game since Sept. 12, 2016, at Arizona.

David Dahl, Nolan Arenado and Ian Desmond also homered for the Rockies, who earned their second home series win of the season. German Marquez (4-5) pitched seven innings of one-run ball in his second straight victory.

Tigers 3, White Sox 2

In Detroit, Blaine Hardy pitched seven strong innings to help Detroit get the win.

Hardy allowed one run and three hits, struck out six and walked one in his third start of the season. The 31-year-old lefthander is helping out in the rotation while Jordan Zimmermann is out with a shoulder issue.

Joe Jimenez struck out the side on 12 pitches in the eighth, and Shane Greene allowed Jose Rondon's homer in the ninth before finishing for his 13th save.

Funding, urgency lacking in Olympic abuse crisis

WASHINGTON—The tears and anger this time came from lawmakers who spent the day fuming over a growing sex-abuse problem in Olympic sports that leaders have taken too much time to solve while devoting too little money for the fixes.

"I just hope everyone here realizes the time to talk is over, and you need to walk your talk," Rep. Debbie Dingell, D-Mich., said Wednesday shortly after choking back tears while questioning leaders of the U.S. Olympic Committee, USA Gymnastics and the U.S. Center for SafeSport.

The hearing of the House subcommittee was filled with both substance and spectacle—the latter coming mostly courtesy of a five-minute burst from Rep. Buddy Carter, R-Ga., who told the USOC's acting CEO, Susanne Lyons, "you should resign your position now," and tore into USA Gymnastics CEO Kerry Perry and the rest of the panel for not uttering the exact words: "I'm sorry."

"If you don't want to say you're sorry, I don't want to talk to you," said Carter, who represents the district where a lawsuit that triggered the mushrooming scandal in gymnastics was filed.

In fact, members on the panel of U.S. sports executives did apologize to the victims, whose numbers grow almost daily and whose pain was most heart-wrenchingly displayed during the sentencing hearing for Larry Nassar, the Michigan State doctor who also worked for the U.S. gymnastics team.

But set against the USOC's slow-moving reforms, to say nothing of the raw numbers presented by SafeSport CEO Shellie Pfohl, some of the apologies felt hollow.

The USOC started talking about reforming its sex-abuse policy in 2010 after a scandal was exposed inside of USA Swimming. From then, it took seven years to open the SafeSport center to independently investigate sex-abuse claims made by Olympic athletes. Pfohl described an office that has been overwhelmed in the 14 months it has been in business.

When it opened in March 2017, Pfohl said the center received 20 to 30 calls a month. In the wake of the (hash) MeToo movement and the Nassar case, that has increased to about 20 to 30 calls per week.

SafeSport operates on a budget of $4.3 million a year, $1.55 million of which was recently added as part of the USOC's mission to bolster its response to the abuse issue. That brought the USOC's contribution to $3.1 million. (By comparison, the USOC gave the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency, in charge of Olympic drug testing in the United States, $3.7 million in 2016. Its budget is more than $19 million.)

The budget is enough for 14 full-time employees, which includes five full-time investigators. Seven additional investigators work on a contract basis. The center has fielded 840 reports over 14 months. Reports have come in regarding 38 of the 49 national governing bodies.

Part of the delay in opening the SafeSport center came because the USOC met reluctance from almost everyone in funding, both from outside and inside the Olympic movement. The NGBs are charged on a sliding scale, depending on their size. USA Swimming contributed only $43,000 this year, "but we're one of the larger NGBs, and based on who we are, we could provide more resources," CEO Tim Hinchey said.

Pfohl said she wouldn't turn it down.

Meanwhile, she is still waiting for paperwork to apply for a $2.5 million grant the government wrote into this year's budget. (The government gave $9.5 million to USADA in 2016.)

The witnesses testified to a continued lack of uniformity in sex-abuse policies among the NGBs, despite efforts that date to at least 2013. Some publish full lists of banned coaches and athletes. Some distribute them only to members of the organizations. Under terms of a recently passed law to protect athletes, the NGBs are supposed to be audited randomly by the SafeSport center, but that project is hamstrung because resources do not exist.

LeBron helps Cavaliers reach NBA Finals

BOSTON (AP)—With another Game 7 victory at stake, LeBron James would not sit out.

He would not say goodbye to Cleveland again -- not yet, anyway.

And he would not be denied an eighth straight trip to the NBA Finals.

The four-time league MVP scored 35 points with 15 rebounds and nine assists on Sunday night, leading the Cleveland Cavaliers to an 87-79 win over the Celtics and eliminating Boston from the Eastern Conference finals in the decisive seventh game.

"He's had a lot of gaudy games," Cavaliers coach Tyronn Lue said. "But I just think Game 7, in Boston, all the circumstances that surround Boston, the history ... to come here in a hostile environment: (it's) right there."

In the first close game, the lowest-scoring and the first victory for a road team in the series, James played all 48 minutes, scoring 12 of his points in the fourth quarter for his sixth straight Game 7 win. Lue used his timeouts to get his star an extra few minutes of rest when he could, and James didn't warm up at halftime to conserve his energy.

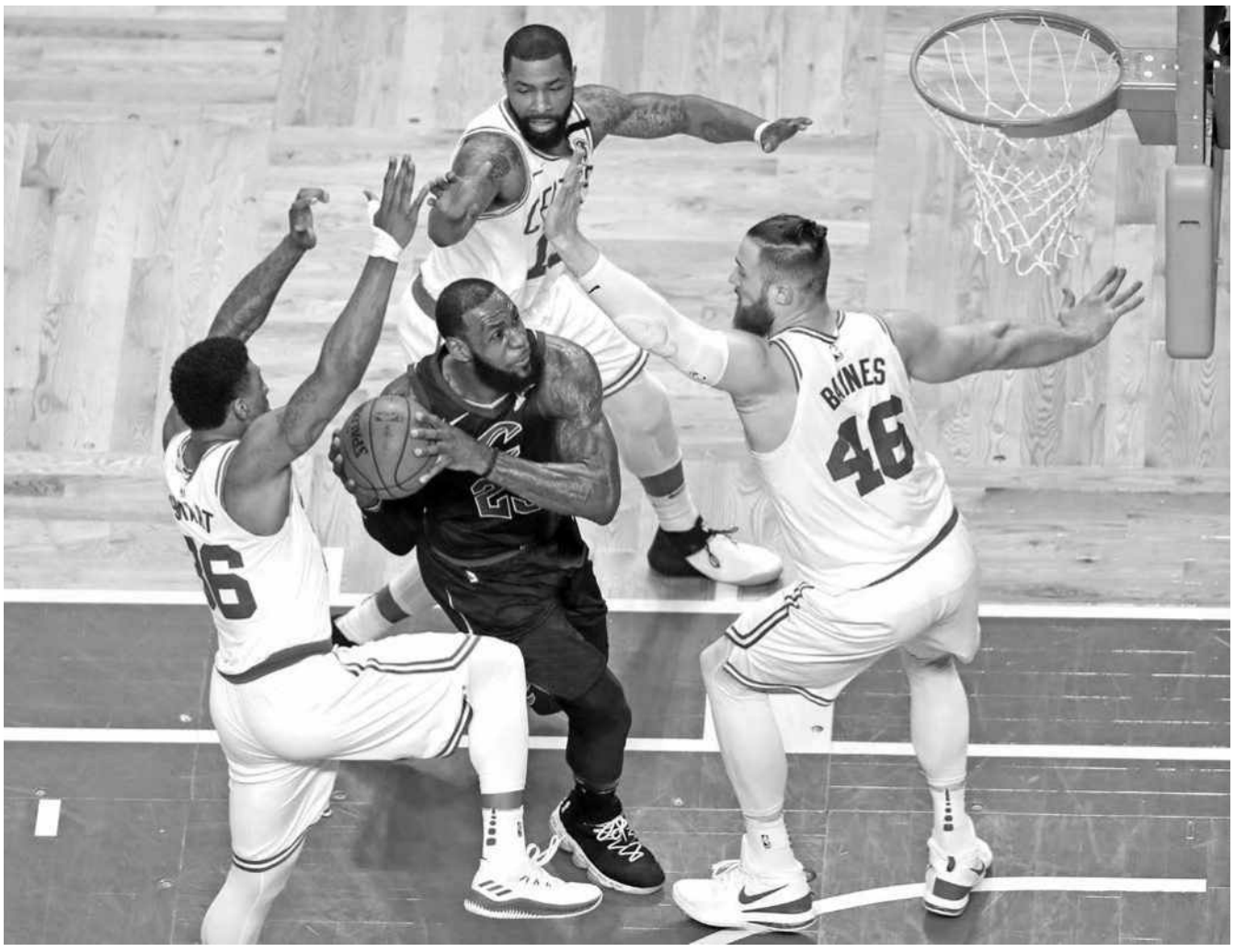
"It was asked of me tonight to play the whole game," he said. "And I just tried to figure out how I can get through it."

James played all 82 regular-season games for the first time in his career and is already at 100 for the year with at least four more to come. He tired late in Game 5, when the Celtics won their 10th straight at home this postseason.

Celtics coach Brad Stevens said the plan was to wear James out.

Nice try.

"Our goal going into the series was to make him exert as much energy as humanly possible and try to be as good as we can on everybody else," Stevens said. "For the most part, I thought we were pretty good at that ... but he still scored 35. It's a joke."



AP

Cleveland Cavaliers forward LeBron James, center, drives through the defense of Boston Celtics guard Marcus Smart, left, forward Marcus Morris, rear, and center Aron Baynes, right, during the first half in Game 7 of the NBA basketball Eastern Conference finals, Sunday, May 27, 2018, in Boston.

For James, a potential free agent, the victory postponed a decision about his future until next month.

Now, the only question is who the Cavaliers will play for a chance at their second title in three years: The Rockets host Game 7 of the Western Conference finals against Golden State on Monday night, and the winner will host the opener of the NBA Finals on Thursday.

The Cavaliers are expected to be underdogs against either.

"We have an opportunity to play for a championship," James said. "It doesn't matter what the story line is going to be, it doesn't matter if we're picked to win or not. I'm the wrong guy to ask. I just like to compete."

Jayson Tatum scored 24 points, Al Horford had 17 and Marcus Morris added 14 points with 12 rebounds for the Celtics, who were looking to return to the NBA Finals for the first time since 2010.

Tatum had a dunk over James with 6:41 left—staring down the Cavaliers star and bumping him with his chest—then followed it with a 3-pointer that gave the Celtics a 72-71 lead. But that would be Boston's last basket for more than five minutes while Cleveland went on a 15-2 run to put the game away.

James embraced Horford and Tatum after the buzzer, then the Cavaliers donned celebratory hats and T-shirts before shuffling off the court to receive the Eastern Conference championship trophy.

It's not the one they want.

James has been in the finals every year since 2011—four with Miami, and now four straight with Cleveland.

This might be his weakest supporting cast.

He had to do it without Kevin Love—Cleveland's only other all-star—who sustained a concussion in Game 6 and was replaced in the lineup by Jeff Green. Making his first start since the first-round opener against Indiana, Green scored 19 points and added eight rebounds—the star of James' starless supporting cast.

"We said we want to do this for Kevin," Lue said. "Kevin wanted to play, to be in a Game 7 situation like this in the Eastern Conference Finals, being an All-Star, being our second-best player, and he just wasn't able to go. The guys picked him up, so now he has another chance when we get to the finals to be ready."

The Celtics have had more time to get used to their injuries: Gordon Hayward has been out since the first game of the season, and Kyrie Irving has been sidelined since March. With the rookie Tatum and second-year Jaylen Brown, Boston established itself as the team of the future in the East.

"It was pretty incredible run by an incredible group of guys, and an absolute pleasure and privilege to be around them every day," Stevens said. "We obviously have a good thing going."

But the present still belongs to James.

And, for now, that means Cleveland, too.

Celtics fall short, but prove they are contenders

BOSTON (AP)—Go ahead. Comfort the Boston Celtics in soothing, dulcet tones that there's no shame in losing to LeBron James: the greatest player in the game, a mammoth icon who played 48 minutes and demoralized his old familiar playoff foe in every possible way imaginable. Dagger 3's, vicious defense, superb court vision and, above all, a Hall of Fame swagger that nobody else on the court—or perhaps this earth?—could begin to duplicate.

Feel free to remind the Celtics that nobody—absolutely nobody—expected them to advance to the Eastern Conference finals with a roster decimated from the outset because of crippling injuries to Gordon Hayward, then Kyrie Irving, then Daniel Theis, then Shane Larkin.

It's all true, of course, but don't expect them to endorse a lick of it. The Sons of Brad Stevens, even in the wake of a crushing Game 7 loss in their own building, the only one of its so-called improbable playoff run, stomped out of TD Garden believing this was a game they should have won, even after shooting 34 percent for the game and an unfathomable 17.9 percent (7-of-39) from the 3-point line.

They will wake up Monday morning fervently arguing that they belonged on this grand stage, not as underdogs but as legitimate contenders.

"None of this was ever improbable to us,"said Marcus Morris. "Like I said from the beginning, once I saw the draw for the playoffs, I expected us to be in the position we were in right now. But we take our hats off to Cleveland. They came back from a 2-0 (series) deficit. They had LeBron. We missed shots we normally make."

Warriors, Rockets set for Game 7 in West finals

HOUSTON (AP)—When the Golden State Warriors lost Game 5 of the Western Conference finals to the Rockets on Thursday night to send them to the brink of elimination they vowed to be back in Houston for Game 7.

After a resounding win in Game 6 that's exactly where the defending champions are, preparing for a winner-take-all game Monday night for a spot in the NBA Finals.

"It's going to be fun," Stephen Curry said. "It's what you play for, to be in a situation where you're one win away from going to the finals. Pressure both ways because of how big the moment is, and you've got to want it."

The Warriors trailed by as many as 17 points in the first half Saturday night before using a splendid second half to roll to a 115-86 victory. Curry knows that if the Warriors hope to return to the finals for the fourth straight year they'll have to get off to a better start in Game 7.

"I guarantee if we start the game out like we did (Saturday) and they jump out to the lead, it's going to be 10 times harder to make it a game," Curry said. "So for us that's our challenge to have the same mentality we had for the last 36 minutes of (Game 6) and bring that from the jump in Game 7."

Kevin Durant is excited about helping the Warriors return to the finals, but he got a little confused on when Game 7 was on Saturday night.

"I can't wait `til Tuesday," Durant said.

Curry quickly jumped in to correct his teammate.

"Monday," he said. "Please don't miss a game."

The Rockets aren't dwelling on their missed opportunity to close out the series as they get ready for Monday's game where they'll try to punch their ticket to finals for the first time since winning back-to-back titles in 1995-95.

They might have to do it without star Chris Paul, who is dealing with a strained right hamstring that kept him out of Game 6. Coach Mike D'Antoni said Sunday that he's continuing to receive treatment and his status for Game 7 will likely be a game-time decision.

James Harden, who had 22 points in the first half on Saturday night but just 10 the rest of the way, insists that the Rockets remain confident despite the blowout loss and are up to Monday's challenge.

"There's no pressure. It's an opportunity, an opportunity that we all are excited to be a part of," he said. "Game 7 at our house, that's what we've worked the entire regular season for (is) to get home-court advantage. So we're going to come out and be ready."

The Rockets tied the Raptors for best home record in the NBA during the regular season by going 34-7. They're 7-2 in Houston this postseason with one of their losses coming in Game 1 of this series.

After 10,000 people paid $10 each to watch Saturday night's game at the Toyota Center in what was a fundraiser for victims of the Santa Fe school shooting, Harden has no doubt that the home fans will be ready to help them out in Game 7.

Neymar admits not being 100 percent fit ahead of World Cup

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP)—Neymar admitted Sunday he is not 100 percent in shape after a week's training with Brazil in its World Cup preparations. The striker said he still feels discomfort in his recovering right foot but believes he will be better for the tournament in Russia, which begins June 14.

"Physically I am well, my foot is fine. I am adapting in a few things. I still feel some discomfort, but it is not something that will trouble me," the 26-year-old Neymar told journalists at Brazil's football confederation headquarters in Rio de Janeiro.

Asked how well he was feeling now, Neymar answered: "Not 100 percent yet. But that comes with time. It is normal that I have this fear of making complete movements. Let's take it easy, there are still many days until the (World Cup) opener and I will be 100 percent then."

Neymar has not played a match since February but hopes to be on the pitch again in Brazil's friendly against Croatia on June 3 in Liverpool.

"I am ready to play, there is nothing that can stop me," he said. "What I feel today is this fear because I am coming back now."

The Brazilian was forced to leave the 2014 World Cup with a vertebral fracture in the 2-1 victory against Colombia in the quarterfinals.

"I hope that dream is not interrupted once more and that it is consolidated with a title for us," Neymar said.

AP

Brazil's Neymar controls the ball during a practice session at the Granja Comary training center, in Teresopolis, Brazil, Tuesday, May 22, 2018. Neymar was back in training on Tuesday to give Brazil a big boost ahead of the World Cup.

During the week in the Granja Comary training camp in Teresopolis, outside Rio, Neymar continued his recovery—dribbling and passing at high speed. Members of Brazil's coaching staff have tried to reduce pressure on the star by saying it would take time until he delivered his best performances.

Brazil's 20-man squad will fly to London later Sunday to continue its World Cup preparations.

Neymar also dismissed rumors he could leave Paris Saint-Germain.

Asked about rumors linking him to Real Madrid, he answered: "My focus is Brazil, people are saying nonsense and that is not worth answering."

Champions League winners Casemiro and Marcelo of Real Madrid and runner-up Roberto Firmino of Liverpool will join the group on Wednesday.

Brazil's football confederation spokesman Vinicius Rodrigues said coach Tite decided to give the three players more time to rest before they join the squad.

The Brazilian squad is set to arrive at Stansted Airport in England on Monday morning and head straight to Tottenham's training ground in the north of the city. The team will set up camp there until June 8.

Madrid celebrates Champions League title with fans back home

MADRID (AP)—For a third straight year, Real Madrid celebrated a European title with its fans.

Madrid brought the Champions League trophy home on Sunday and paraded it through the streets of the Spanish capital as thousands of fans saluted the newly crowned champions.

Madrid was back in Spain after winning its 13th European title with a 3-1 win over Liverpool in Kiev on Saturday.

The celebrations ended at a packed Santiago Bernabeu Stadium, where players and fans shouted for Cristiano Ronaldo to stay at the club.

"This (support) is very important for me," said Ronaldo, who after the final in Ukraine hinted he could be leaving Madrid. "I'm proud to play in the greatest club in the world."

Ronaldo avoided making any specific comments about his future, although earlier in the day he had left a celebration by telling fans "until next year."

The festivities began with players and team members participating in a ceremony at a local cathedral. Then they met with the city mayor and community president before addressing fans from a terrace at the Puerta del Sol square, one of Madrid's main locations.

"It has become a routine to be here," captain Sergio Ramos said. "Hopefully it will continue for many years."

The team then got on an open bus and paraded with the trophy until reaching the club's traditional celebration spot, the Plaza de Cibeles, where fans had been waiting for the champions for hours.

The players chanted "Campeones, Campeones" and "We Are Kings of Europe" along with the fans. Ramos and Marcelo carried the trophy across the walkway set up over the plaza's fountain and draped the statue of the goddess Cibele with a Spain flag that carried Madrid's name on it. Ramos also put a team scarf around the goddess' head to huge cheers from the crowd as the song "We Are The Champions" was played.

The final stop was at the Bernabeu, where nearly 80,000 fans attended a ceremony honoring the European champions.

Players and coaches were introduced one by one amid a lights show, then lifted the trophy on a midfield stage as confetti and fireworks blasted in the background.

The stadium had already been packed on Saturday with fans watching the final on eight big screens set up on the field.

Thousands had already made it to the Plaza de Cibeles right after the game in celebrations that lasted into the early hours of Sunday.

Madrid has won the Champions League in four of the last five years. It had beaten Juventus last season, and city rival Atletico Madrid in finals in 2014 and 2016.

Members of Real Madrid's basketball team, which won the European title this year, were also honored in the ceremony at the Bernabeu.

SAIPAN

From Page 28

ther tie or regain the lead. However, neither materialize, as Peredo could not pull up for a shot against three Saipan Vegas defenders, while Devero missed a jumper from downtown. Mateo then recovered the ball, but was caught stepping on the baseline, giving possession to Saipan Vegas with 4 seconds left in the game.

IT&E was forced to commit a foul on Mungcal after the inbound play to stop the clock, which read at 2 seconds. Mungcal's first attempt was too strong and he intentionally missed the second one, while Brendon Talania got the rebound and was still at the backcourt when he threw the ball at the buzzer.

It was a come-from-behind victory for Saipan Vegas, as IT&E was in control majority in the game, posting its biggest lead at 36-24, in the fourth quarter. Mungcal, Paulo Sanguyo, and Junar Guiab then teamed up in bringing Saipan Vegas back into the game, which ended in a tie after three periods, 42-42.

It was a close match after that with IT&E falling short in the end, as the already depleted squad also lost big man Bruce Berline due to five fouls early in the fourth.

With the tough win, Saipan Vegas advanced to the semifinals and will face the winner of the Pinatubo and I-Secure playoff game this weekend.

Saipan Vegas and IT&E played in last Saturday's quarterfinal match after downing Alamo Rent A Car and Hong Ye, respectively.

Saipan Vegas 55 — Sanguyo 16, Mungcal 14, Guiab 8, Camacho 6, Fernando 6, Almario 4, Usi 1.

IT&E 53 — Peredo 15, Mateo 13, Devero 11, Berline 8, Talania 6.

Scoring by quarters: 9-13, 20-27, 42-42, 55-53.

CAROL

From Page 28

will stay here for a few weeks before returning to Fiji to represent the islands in the Pacific Nation's Cup in August.

"After that, I will train and play in the ITF tournaments there. My focus now will be to prepare for tournaments in the latter half of the year, which will be very important," Lee said.

The Saipan Community School graduate is hoping to bolster her world rankings to be able to play more Grade 1, A and B competitions. She is currently ranked at No. 241 and achieved her highest rank early this year at No. 178.

LITTLE

From Page 28

the Little Legals, as the former only countered with one run. Chris Pangelinan delivered what turned out to be the final run for the Falcons off Achilles Evangelista's base hit, as G-Boy Pangelinan held their foes to two hits in the third and up to the early part of the bottom of the fifth, while Gunner Sablan threw a no-hitter in a closing job.

G-Boy gave up a single to Mike Tomokane to start the bottom of the third, but the catcher was tagged out at third, while De'Andre Sablan grounded out at third, and G-Boy struck out Andre Iguel for the quick three outs for the Little Legals.

It was the same story for the struggling Falcons at the bottom of the fourth, as G-Boy struck out Alfonso Taitaino and Vinnie Sablan and Noah Aguon grounded out at third. The Falcons' first two batters at the bottom of the fifth inning were also booted out on 1-3 and 6-4 plays, while third batter Christopher Gonzales advanced off a fielder's choice and was later left there when Little Legals first baseman Benji Palacios caught a line-drive from Tomokane.

With the Falcons grounded from the third to fifth inning, pressured mounted on the Manny Evangelista-coached squad going into the last inning, which was halted for a few minutes due to a drizzle.

The game resumed in less than five minutes and Gunner Sablan, who relieved G-Boy after the latter gave up a single on Joey Sharry at the bottom of the fifth, were called for high balls in his first two pitches against De Andre Sablan. Gunner then settled down and struck out De Andre and then made another defensive stop when he picked up a grounder from Taitano and threw to second baseman Jess Norita, who beat runner Iguel for the second out. Iguel earlier moved to first off a Little Legals' error.

With the Little Legals one out away from clinching the championship, all eyes were focused on Dylan Santos, who let go of Gunner's first two low pitches before making contact with the third one. The shot was a short grounder with the ball rolling toward Gunner, who picked the leather up and threw to Palacios at first base to seal the deal for the Little Legals and hand the Falcons another runner-up finish.

The Falcons lost to the Braves in the 2017 finale, 6-7, while the Little Legals placed third in last year's competition after beating the Comets in the consolation game, 4-3. The Little Legals, who bowed to the Falcons twice in the regular season this year, were defeated by the same squad in the semifinals last season.

Meanwhile, the Pirates won the battle for third place yesterday after outclassing McDonald's, 7-5.

MIBF Island-wide Basketball League Women's Finals

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The Ol'Aces' Annalei Santos tries to dribble past the defense of Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan's Mikky Kautz during Game 1 of their title series in the women's division of the 2018 MIBF Island-wide Basketball League held this month at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The Ol''Aces' Jaime Pangelinan, left, pulls up for a running shot against Fiesta Resort's Jan Travilla.

Fiesta Resort's Nana Watanabe, right, looks to attempt a shot in front of the Ol'Aces' Eleina Santos.

Fiesta Resort's Quina Flores, third left, is fouled by the Ol'Aces' Alliyah Fernandez, right.

Fiesta Resort's Jan Travilla pulls up for a jumper in front of two Ol'Aces defenders.

Fiesta Resort's Madi Alegre unloads a point-blank shot against the Ol'Aces' Annalei Santos, left, and Luisa Han.

Fiesta Resort's Cassandra Camacho looks to pass the ball to her teammates as she is pressured by an Ol'Aces defender.

The Ol'Aces' Eleina Santos, center, is hemmed in by Fiesta Resort's Nana Watanabe, left, and Jan Travilla.

Tanaka strikes out eight, pitches Yanks past Angels

PAGE 24

Saipan Tribune
Sports

LeBron helps Cavaliers reach NBA Finals

PAGE 25

Little Legals claim Majors title

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

It's payback time for the Kagman Little Legals.

The Little Legals avenged their two losses against the Falcons after scoring a 6-4 victory in their title duel in the Majors division of the 2018 Saipan Little League Baseball yesterday at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The Little Legals' G-Boy Pangelinan engages in a run down play between third base and home during the top of the fifth inning of their title game against the Falcons in the Majors division of the 2018 Saipan Little League Baseball yesterday at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield.

A five-run top of the second inning allowed the Little Legals to take control of the winner-take-all finale and they kept the driver's seat after playing solid defense in the remainder of the exciting game.

Downs 1-3 after one complete inning, Reed Camacho led off for the Little Legals at the top of the second and the centerfielder eventually made it home of a fielder's choice to move his team within one. A Jess Norita single then brought home second batter Stanley Iakopo and tied the match, while a two-run single by starting pitcher G-Boy Pangelinan put the Little Legals on top, 5-3 with two outs.

The Little Legals then made it a 6-3 advantage when Austin Diaz reached off the Falcons' error at centerfield, while the Falcons finally got the needed stop and ended the agonizing inning for the pennant champion when Cardi Borja went down on a 6-3 play, leaving Pangelinan stranded at third.

The Falcons tried to regain their composure at the bottom of the second, but failed against the tough defense of

See LITTLE on Page 26

Saipan Vegas eliminates IT&E

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Saipan Vegas played steadier in the homestretch to pull off a 55-53 victory against IT&E in the playoff game in the 2018 Civic Center Inter-color Basketball League last Saturday at the Civic Center court.

Randy Mungcal scored the go-ahead basket and wisely missed his second free throw after also muffing his first attempt, leaving IT&E not enough time to take a decent shot.

Mungcal's basket came after Ivan Devero tied the match, 53-all, with 37 seconds left in the fourth quarter. Devero was also fouled on his way to the basket, but failed to complete the and-1 play, leaving the game in a standoff.

Mungcal then countered with his own 3-point play, but also did not make the bonus shot, while IT&E got the rebound, however, Nate Mateo faltered on his shot. Alvin Almario collared the rebound and tried to call timeout, but was given none, as the ball was live, and a held ball was eventually called, down to the last 18 seconds of the match.

IT&E got the possession arrow and had a chance to ei-

See SAIPAN on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Saipan Vegas' Junar Guiab, left, rams into the defense of IT&E's Bruce Berline during their playoff game in the Civic caging last Saturday at the Civic Center court.

Carol plays for home

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI's Carol Lee took a long journey to get home and play in the 2018 Northern Marianas Junior Championships.

She went on to top both the singles and doubles events of the ITF Juniors competition, making the trip from Africa to Saipan worth it.

"It was a long journey but it was definitely worth it. I would do it again in a heartbeat. I'm proud of representing Saipan and anywhere I go play my tourneys, I would always represent Saipan, my home," Lee said after beating Hong Kong's Wing Ka Lin in the singles finals last Sunday at the Pacific Islands Club Saipan court.

The 16-year-old was in Morocco for a month and played her last tournament there at the Mediterranée Avenir. She stayed at the ITF regional facility in the African nation to train and just arrived on Saipan a day before the tournament started.

Lee could have passed on the chance to play in the CNMI-hosted event, as it was just a Grade 5 competition and the Junior ITF rankings points at stake would not greatly affect her rankings. Lee has also been competing in high-ranking events off-island, but she wanted to come home and play.

"It feels good winning at home. I've always wanted to win this tournament and I am really happy my schedule allowed me to play here," she said.

The Commonwealth player

See CAROL on Page 26

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The CNMI's Carol Lee poses with her doubles and singles awards after ruling the 2018 Northern Marianas Junior Championships last Sunday at the Pacific Islands Club Saipan hard courts.